Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
18 July 2014

2014 session
Item 16 (*j*) of the provisional agenda*

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 12 June 2014

[*on the recommendation of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/2014/27)*]

2014/1. Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General,[1]

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[2] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action, adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women,[3] and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[4]

Recalling also its resolution 2013/17 of 24 July 2013 and other relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003 on the prevention of armed conflict and Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 on women and peace and security,

Recalling further the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women[5] as it concerns the protection of civilian populations,

Recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[6] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[6] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[7] and reaffirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Expressing deep concern about the grave situation of Palestinian women in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, resulting from the severe impact of the ongoing illegal Israeli occupation and all of its manifestations,

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* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

[1] E/CN.6/2014/6.

[2] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15–26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[3] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[4] General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[5] General Assembly resolution 48/104.

[6] See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

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Expressing grave concern about the increased difficulties being faced by Palestinian women and girls living under Israeli occupation, including the continuation of home demolitions, evictions of Palestinians, the revocation of residency rights, arbitrary detention and imprisonment and escalating settler violence against Palestinian civilians and their property, as well as high rates of poverty, unemployment, food insecurity, inadequate water supply and unsafe drinking water, incidents of domestic violence and declining health, education and living standards, including the rising incidence of trauma and the decline in their psychological well-being, and expressing grave concern about the dire humanitarian crisis and the insecurity and instability on the ground in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in particular in the Gaza Strip,

Deploring the dire economic and social conditions of Palestinian women and girls in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the systematic violation of their human rights resulting from the severe impact of ongoing illegal Israeli practices, including the forced displacement of civilians and confiscation of land, particularly in connection with the construction and expansion of settlements and the wall, which continue to constitute a major obstacle to peace on the basis of the two-State solution, and the continued imposition of closures and restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, including the permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which have detrimentally affected their right to health care, including access of pregnant women to health services for antenatal care and safe delivery, education, employment, development and freedom of movement,

Gravely concerned, in particular, about the critical socioeconomic and humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip, including that resulting from Israeli military operations, including those in November 2012, and the continuing imposition of a blockade consisting of the prolonged closure of border crossings and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, as well as the continued impeding of the reconstruction process by Israel, the occupying Power, which has detrimentally affected every aspect of the lives of the civilian population, especially women and children, in the Gaza Strip,

Stressing the importance of providing assistance, especially emergency assistance, to alleviate the dire socioeconomic and humanitarian situation being faced by Palestinian women and their families, and recognizing the essential efforts and support being provided by the United Nations agencies and other humanitarian aid organizations on the ground,

Reiterating the importance of increasing the role of women in peacebuilding and decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and the peaceful resolution of conflicts as part of efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of all women in the region, and stressing the importance of their equal participation and involvement in all efforts for the achievement, maintenance and promotion of peace and security,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli occupation remains the major obstacle for Palestinian women with regard to their advancement, self-reliance and integration into the development of their society, and stresses the importance of efforts to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution and to ensure their equal participation and involvement in all efforts for the achievement, maintenance and promotion of peace and security;

2. *Calls upon* the international community, in this regard, to continue to provide urgently needed assistance, especially emergency assistance, and services in an effort to alleviate the dire humanitarian crisis being faced by Palestinian women and their families and to help in the reconstruction of relevant Palestinian

institutions, with the integration of a gender perspective into all of its international assistance programmes, commends the implementation of the August 2009 plan of the Palestinian Authority for constructing the institutions of an independent Palestinian State and the significant achievements made, as confirmed by international institutions, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations, and calls for continued support of these efforts;

3. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions and principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[8] the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention IV of 18 October 1907, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[9] and all other relevant rules, principles and instruments of international law, including the International Covenants on Human Rights,[6] in order to protect the rights of Palestinian women and their families;

4. *Urges* the international community to continue to give special attention to the promotion and protection of the human rights of Palestinian women and girls and to intensify its measures to improve the difficult conditions being faced by Palestinian women and their families living under Israeli occupation;

5. *Calls upon* Israel to facilitate the return of all refugees and displaced Palestinian women and children to their homes and properties, in compliance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

6. *Stresses* the urgent need for sustained and active international involvement, including by the Quartet, to assist the parties in advancing and accelerating peace process negotiations for the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement that ends the occupation which began in 1967 and results in the independence of a democratic, contiguous and viable State of Palestine living side by side in peace and security with Israel and its neighbours, on the basis of United Nations resolutions, the Quartet road map to a permanent two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict[10] and the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session;[11]

7. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[2] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action,[3] and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";[4]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation, to assist Palestinian women by all available means, including those set out in his report,[1] and to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-ninth session a report, including information provided by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

22nd plenary meeting
12 June 2014

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[8] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

[9] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[10] S/2003/529, annex.

[11] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

United Nations E/RES/2014/2

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
11 July 2014

2014 session
Item 10 (*c*) of the provisional agenda*

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 12 June 2014

[*on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2014/L.12)*]

2014/2. Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming its agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,[1] and recalling its resolutions on the subject matter, including resolutions 2011/6 of 14 July 2011, 2012/24 of 27 July 2012 and 2013/16 of 24 July 2013,

Reaffirming also the commitments to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the Millennium Summit,[2] the 2005 World Summit,[3] the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[4] the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development[5] and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, and reaffirming further that their full, effective and accelerated implementation is integral to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming further the commitment made at the 2005 World Summit to actively promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres and to further undertake to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender,

Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming is a globally accepted strategy for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and constitutes a critical strategy in the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing

* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, sect. A, para. 4.

[2] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[3] See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

[4] See General Assembly resolution 65/1.

[5] See General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

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Declaration and Platform for Action[6] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[7] as well as in the full implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[8]

Underlining the catalytic role played by the Commission on the Status of Women and the important roles played by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, and taking note of the agreed conclusions and decisions of the Commission related to the promotion and monitoring of gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 67/226 of 21 December 2012, entitled "Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system", including in particular section III.D on gender equality and women's empowerment,

Recalling also the section of General Assembly resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010 entitled "Strengthening the institutional arrangements for support of gender equality and the empowerment of women",

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General,[9] and appreciates that it provides a comprehensive and systemic approach to data collection and evidence-based analysis of gender mainstreaming through the United Nations system;

2. *Also welcomes* the recommendations contained in the report, and calls for intensified and continued efforts to mainstream a gender perspective, commensurate with gender equality goals, into all policies and programmes of the United Nations, in accordance with all relevant United Nations resolutions, in particular those of the Economic and Social Council;

3. *Stresses* that the Inter-agency Network on Women and Gender Equality constitutes a key forum for achieving more effective coordination, coherence and gender mainstreaming across the United Nations system and for the exchange and cross-fertilization of ideas and practical experiences on gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, and looks forward to the continued role of the Network in accelerating the implementation of the policy and strategy for gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system;

4. *Also stresses* the need to leverage existing inter-agency networks, including the Inter-agency Network on Women and Gender Equality, the United Nations Evaluation Group and the Representatives of Internal Audit Services of the United Nations Organizations and Multilateral Financial Institutions, to take increased responsibility for the implementation of relevant action plan performance indicators;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the important and extensive work of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for more effective and coherent gender mainstreaming across the United Nations

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[6] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[7] General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[8] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[9] E/2014/63.

and its role in leading, coordinating and promoting accountability of the United Nations system in its work on gender equality and the empowerment of women, as established by the General Assembly in its resolution 64/289, and recognizes its role in assisting Member States upon their request;

6. *Requests* the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective mandates, to accelerate the full and effective mainstreaming of a gender perspective, commensurate with gender equality goals, in accordance with previous Economic and Social Council resolutions, in particular resolution 2008/34 of 25 July 2008, and General Assembly resolutions 64/289 and 67/226, including by:

(*a*) Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all its operational mechanisms, inter alia, the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and other development frameworks;

(*b*) Ensuring that managers provide strong leadership and support, within the United Nations system, to advance gender mainstreaming;

(*c*) Increasing investment in and focus on outputs and outcomes relating to gender equality and the empowerment of women;

(*d*) Strengthening monitoring, evaluation and reporting so as to allow for system-wide assessment of progress in gender mainstreaming;

(*e*) Mobilizing and developing sufficient gender expertise for planning, implementation and gender-related resource allocation and tracking;

(*f*) Mainstreaming gender-responsive planning and budgeting and intensifying the use of gender marker systems, including in the humanitarian programme cycle;

(*g*) Strengthening capacities and using existing resources, including institutions and infrastructure, to assist in the development and application of unified training modules and tools on gender mainstreaming;

7. *Also requests* the United Nations system to continue and increase support to Member States, with their agreement and consent, in the implementation of national policies for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, inter alia, by providing support and capacity development to national machineries for the advancement of women and girls and related national entities;

8. *Welcomes* the report on the second year of implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women,[9] and commends the progress made under the leadership of UN-Women in the performance of the United Nations system on gender mainstreaming;

9. *Requests* the continued use of reporting under the System-wide Action Plan to inform the report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system, in order to measure the progress of the United Nations system on gender mainstreaming at the corporate level against the baseline defined in 2013;

10. *Encourages* the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and senior managers to continue to direct their attention to promoting gender mainstreaming in the United Nations system;

11. *Recognizes* that large gaps remain between policy and practice and that, while building United Nations staff capacities is very important, additional efforts, such as those recommended in the report of the Secretary-General, would enable the entire United Nations system to meet its commitments and obligations with respect to gender mainstreaming;

12. *Requests* the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective organizational mandates, to continue to work collaboratively to enhance and accelerate gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, including by:

(*a*) Fully implementing the System-wide Action Plan, including ensuring 100 per cent reporting compliance by all relevant entities, in order to meet its targets;

(*b*) Investing in adequate human and financial resources to address shortcomings that threaten to impede progress, including in the areas of gender policies, capacity development, education and training resource tracking and allocation, the equal representation of women and organizational culture;

(*c*) Supporting efforts by the governing bodies of United Nations entities to devote adequate attention to gender mainstreaming in their plans and activities;

(*d*) Ensuring that the various accountability mechanisms of the United Nations system provide for more coherent, accurate and effective monitoring, evaluation and reporting on gender equality results and common indicators on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls;

(*e*) Ensuring the tracking of gender-related resource allocation and expenditure, including through the promotion of the use of gender markers that apply similar standards and principles to allow for comparability and aggregation;

(*f*) Continuing to better align gender equality programming with national priorities across sectors, as requested by the Member State concerned, with the aim of mainstreaming gender perspectives into all legislation, policies and programmes, and supporting national and regional preparations for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;[6]

(*g*) Strengthening the coordination of gender-responsive operational activities among entities of the United Nations system through existing coordination mechanisms at the country level and in partnership, where appropriate, with national stakeholders;

(*h*) Instituting greater accountability in evaluations conducted by United Nations country teams by including gender perspectives in such evaluations;

(*i*) Empowering resident coordinators and humanitarian coordinators to promote gender mainstreaming and to expand and strengthen the use by country teams of the United Nations Development Group performance indicators on gender equality (gender scorecard), including in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, as a planning, accountability, monitoring, evaluation and reporting tool for assessing the effectiveness of gender mainstreaming;

(*j*) Substantially increasing the investment in and focus on outcomes and outputs relating to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework programmes, including by strengthening the predictability of the funding, broadening the donor base and increasing the flexibility of non-core resources;

(*k*) Acquiring appropriate technical expertise for gender mainstreaming into programme planning and implementation to ensure that gender dimensions are systematically addressed, and in this regard drawing on the gender equality expertise available in the United Nations system, including at UN-Women and from gender advisers, to assist in the preparation of United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and other relevant programming frameworks;

(*l*) Collecting, analysing, disseminating and using accurate, reliable, comparable and relevant data, disaggregated by, inter alia, sex, age and disability, in a regular and systematic manner, in order to guide country programming, to support the preparation of organization-wide and country-level documents, such as the strategic, programmatic and results-based frameworks and evaluations, and to continue to promote and refine their tools for measuring progress and impact;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2015 a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including on the promotion of accountability at both the national and the global levels and on progress made in the implementation of the System-wide Action Plan.

23rd plenary meeting
12 June 2014

United Nations E/RES/2014/3

Economic and Social Council

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18 July 2014

2014 session
Item 17 (*b*) of the provisional agenda*

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 12 June 2014

[*on the recommendation of the Commission for Social Development (E/2014/26)*]

2014/3. Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2005/11 of 21 July 2005, 2006/18 of 26 July 2006, 2008/19 of 24 July 2008 and 2010/10 of 22 July 2010 on the future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development,

Recalling also its resolution 2012/7 of 26 July 2012, in which it decided that the Commission shall keep its methods of work under review, and taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Review of methods of work of the Commission for Social Development"[1] requested therein,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013 entitled "Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council", in which the Assembly stipulated that the Council shall invite, inter alia, its subsidiary bodies to contribute, as appropriate, to its work in keeping with the agreed annual theme,

Recalling the commitment to and emphasizing the need to strengthen the Council, within its mandate under the Charter as a principal organ of the United Nations, in the integrated and coordinated follow-up of the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, and recognizing the key role of the Council in achieving a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,

Noting the acceleration of the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals and the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda and the relevance of the work of the Commission in this respect,

1. *Recalls* that the current practice of discussing one core issue over a two-year period has allowed the Commission for Social Development to go into greater depth by also addressing related cross-cutting issues and emerging issues relevant to the theme under discussion;

* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

[1] E/CN.5/2013/12.

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2. *Decides* that the Commission will report on social aspects related to the agreed main theme of the Economic and Social Council in order to contribute to its work;

3. *Also decides* to maintain the two-year review and policy cycle for the 2015 and 2016 sessions;

4. *Reaffirms* that the officers elected to the Bureau of the Commission should continue to be elected for a term of office of two years, in parallel with the review and policy cycle of 2015–2016;

5. *Also reaffirms* that the Commission, in fulfilling its mandate, shall assist the Council in monitoring, reviewing and appraising the progress achieved and problems encountered in the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[2] and shall advise the Council thereon;

6. *Decides* that the priority theme for the 2015–2016 review and policy cycle shall allow the Commission to contribute to the work of the Council and shall be "Rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world";

7. *Also decides* that the Commission should utilize, as appropriate, its agenda item on emerging issues to promote consideration of relevant issues on the agenda of the Council, in particular the annual main theme of the Council and the integration segment linked thereto, which will bring together the key messages from the Council system on the main theme and develop action-oriented recommendations for follow-up;

8. *Further decides* to consider the biennialization of the resolutions of the Commission with a view to eliminating duplication and overlap and promoting complementarity in the consideration and negotiation of similar or related issues between the Council and the General Assembly;

9. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to continue to actively participate in the work of the Commission at an appropriately high level;

10. *Decides* that the Commission shall keep its methods of work, including the functioning of the two-year review and policy cycle, under review also in order to adjust, as appropriate, to the work and cycle of the Council.

23rd plenary meeting
12 June 2014

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[2] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

United Nations E/RES/2014/4

Economic and Social Council

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17 July 2014

2014 session
Item 17 (*b*) of the provisional agenda*

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 12 June 2014

[*on the recommendation of the Commission for Social Development (E/2014/26)*]

2014/4. Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995,[1] and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,[2] reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000[3] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[4] and recalling the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[5] the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development of 16 September 2002,[6] General Assembly resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[7]

Recognizing the commitments made with regard to meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit[4] and reaffirmed in the political declaration on Africa's development needs adopted at the high-level meeting held at United Nations Headquarters on 22 September 2008,[8] and noting the conclusions of the African Union Extraordinary Summit on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa, held in Ouagadougou on 8 and 9 September 2004, including relevant decisions of African Union summits related to the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

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* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

[3] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[4] General Assembly resolution 60/1.

[5] General Assembly resolution 65/1.

[6] General Assembly resolution 57/2.

[7] General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

[8] General Assembly resolution 63/1.

14-55714 (E)

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Recalling the first session of the African Union Conference of Ministers in charge of Social Development, held in Windhoek from 27 to 31 October 2008, and the second session of the Conference of Ministers, held in Khartoum from 21 to 25 November 2010 on the theme "Strengthening social policy action towards social inclusion", welcoming the third session of the Conference of Ministers, held in Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 November 2012, recalling in this regard the African Common Position on Social Integration and the Social Policy Framework for Africa, both of which were endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union in February 2009, as well as the African Common Position on Good Practices in Family Policy Development and Implementation, for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family (2014), and the renewed Continental Plan of Action on the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2010–2019), which were endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union in January 2013, and taking note of the African Common Position on the Human Rights of Older Persons in Africa,

Noting the full integration of the New Partnership for Africa's Development[9] into the structures and processes of the African Union and the establishment of the Planning and Coordinating Agency of the New Partnership as a technical body of the African Union to replace the secretariat of the New Partnership,

Noting with appreciation the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa adopted by the African Union, which calls for the creation of an enabling environment for adequate investments and the adoption of the sector reforms needed to produce the expected results aimed at promoting economic and social development and reducing poverty in the continent through the implementation of integrated regional infrastructure networks,

Welcoming the ministerial statements on the themes "Unleashing Africa's potential as a pole of global growth" and "Industrialization for an emerging Africa", adopted by the African Union Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development at their fifth and sixth joint meetings, held in Addis Ababa on 26 and 27 March 2012 and in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, on 25 and 26 March 2013 respectively, and the consensus statement on the theme "Governing and harnessing natural resources for Africa's development" adopted at the eighth African Development Forum, held in Addis Ababa from 23 to 25 October 2012,

Remaining concerned that, while Africa continues to make steady progress towards attainment of the targets of the Millennium Development Goals, this progress is, however, not enough for all countries to attain all of the Goals by 2015, and in this regard emphasizing that concerted efforts and continued support are required to fulfil the commitments to address the special needs of Africa,

Expressing concern that attainment of the social development objectives may be hindered by the ongoing adverse impacts of the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and food prices and challenges posed by climate change,

Stressing that addressing Africa's special development needs should be given due attention in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda,

Noting that Africa is abundantly endowed with natural resources, including many industrial minerals and agricultural resources that are exported mainly in

[9] A/57/304, annex.

primary form, and that the exploitation of the natural resources sector in Africa has for many years attracted foreign direct investment in capital-intensive enclave sectors that has the potential, when paired with appropriate policies, including employment-intensive policies, to spur structural transformation, create employment, contribute to poverty eradication and reduce inequality,

Emphasizing that the African Union and the regional economic communities have a critical role to play in the implementation of the New Partnership, and in this regard encouraging African countries, with the assistance of their development partners, to increase and coordinate effectively their support for enhancing the capacities of these institutions and to promote regional cooperation and social and economic integration in Africa,

Recognizing the regional coordination mechanism of United Nations agencies and organizations working in Africa in support of the African Union and its New Partnership for Africa's Development Programme of Action, as well as the Planning and Coordinating Agency of the New Partnership, which aims to ensure coordination and coherence in the delivery of support for greater effectiveness and impact through increased joint programming and joint implementation of activities,

Recognizing also that capacity-building, knowledge-sharing and best practices are essential for the successful implementation of the New Partnership, and recognizing also the need for continued support from the international community, partners of the New Partnership and United Nations agencies to continue to work towards sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and development on the African continent, and for greater synergy and effective coordination between the New Partnership and the international initiatives related to Africa, and emphasizing the importance of the close collaboration of the African Union Commission and the United Nations as the co-organizers of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development,

Recognizing further that investments in people, especially their social protection, health and education, are essential to enhancing agricultural productivity and performance, and thereby key to growth and poverty reduction, through increasing decent job creation and employability opportunities, especially for women and youth, improving food security and nutrition and building resilience,

Noting with appreciation that the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative and bilateral donors have provided substantial debt relief to 35 countries that have reached the completion point under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, which has considerably reduced their debt vulnerability and enabled them to increase their investments in social services,

Bearing in mind that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development, that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized and that the development efforts of such countries need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conference on Financing for Development to the New Partnership,[10]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[11]

[10] See *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[11] E/CN.5/2014/2.

2. *Welcomes* the progress made by African countries in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development[9] to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encourages African countries, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to intensify their efforts in this regard by developing and strengthening institutions for governance and creating an environment conducive to attracting foreign direct investment for the development of the region;

3. *Also welcomes* the good progress that has been made in implementing the African Peer Review Mechanism, as reflected in particular by the number of countries that have signed up to participate in the Mechanism, the completion of the peer review process in some countries, the progress in implementing the recommendations of those reviews in those countries and the completion of the annual progress reports and self-assessment processes, the hosting of country support missions and the launching of national preparatory processes for the peer review in others, and urges African States that have not yet done so to join the Mechanism as a matter of priority and to strengthen the peer review process so as to ensure its efficient performance;

4. *Notes* the development of Agenda 2063 as the African Union long-term strategy emphasizing industrialization, youth employment, improved natural resource governance and the reduction of inequalities, and welcomes the decision on the organization of an extraordinary summit of Heads of State and Government of the African Union to assess the progress in implementation of the 2004 Ouagadougou Declaration and Plan of Action on Employment and Poverty Alleviation, to be organized by the African Union in September 2014;

5. *Recognizes* the valuable efforts made by the Steering Committee of the New Partnership in the implementation of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa, particularly through the mechanism of the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative, under which impressive progress has been recorded in the conception of many critical infrastructure projects on the continent;

6. *Stresses* that industrialization is a critical engine of economic and social development, and emphasizes the need to accelerate Africa's industrialization by the adoption and implementation of specific measures and actions at the national, regional and continental levels and with the support of and in collaboration with development partners and the international community;

7. *Also stresses* the importance of taking measures to promote the dynamic diversification of African economies through transforming African economies from resource dependence, increasing local processing of and value addition to natural resources in order to expand the domestic economy and increase revenue, and developing new industries in order to transform lives and create opportunities for more and better jobs;

8. *Welcomes* the efforts made by African countries and regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of women and girls in the implementation of the New Partnership, including the implementation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa;

9. *Stresses* the importance of improving maternal and child health, and in this regard welcomes the declaration of the African Union summit on maternal, infant and child health and development, held in Kampala from 19 to 27 July 2010, and acknowledges the Campaign on Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Africa;

10. *Emphasizes* that progress in the implementation of the New Partnership depends also on a favourable national and international environment for Africa's growth and development, including measures to promote a policy environment conducive to private sector development and entrepreneurship and to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

11. *Also emphasizes* that democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society and effective participation by civil society, including non-governmental and community-based organizations, and the private sector are among the indispensable foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development;

12. *Further emphasizes* that the increasingly unacceptable high levels of poverty, inequality and social exclusion faced by most African countries require a comprehensive approach to the development and implementation of social and economic policies, inter alia, to reduce poverty, to promote economic activity, growth and sustainable development in order to ensure employment creation and decent work for all, to promote education, health and social protection and to enhance equality, social inclusion, political stability, democracy and good governance at all levels and the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

13. *Emphasizes* that identifying and removing barriers to opportunity, as well as ensuring access to basic social protection and social services, are necessary to break the cycle of poverty, inequality and social exclusion;

14. *Encourages* African countries to continue to prioritize structural transformation, modernize smallholder agriculture, add value to primary commodities, improve public and private institutions of economic and political governance and invest in major public infrastructure projects and in education and health in order to promote inclusive growth, generate full and productive employment and decent work for all and reduce poverty;

15. *Emphasizes* that economic development, including employment-intensive resource-based industrial development, infrastructural development and structural transformation, in particular in the rural economy, based on pragmatic and targeted policies to enhance productive capacities in Africa that are consistent with national development priorities and international commitments, can generate employment and income for all African men and women, including the poor, and therefore be an engine for poverty eradication and for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

16. *Underlines* the fact that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments is crucial, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of allocating 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015 and the target of allocating between 0.15 and 0.20 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and urges developed countries that have not yet done so to fulfil their commitments for official development assistance to developing countries;

17. *Stresses* the essential role that official development assistance plays in complementing, leveraging and sustaining financing for development efforts in developing countries and in facilitating the achievement of development objectives, including the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium

Development Goals, and welcomes steps to improve the effectiveness and quality of aid based on the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results, inclusive development partnerships and transparency and mutual accountability;

18. *Recognizes* that, while social development is primarily the responsibility of Governments, international cooperation and assistance are essential for the full achievement of that goal;

19. *Also recognizes* the contribution made by Member States to the implementation of the New Partnership in the context of South-South cooperation, and encourages the international community, including the international financial institutions, to support the efforts of African countries, including through trilateral cooperation;

20. *Welcomes* the various important initiatives undertaken by Africa's development partners in recent years, and in this regard emphasizes the importance of coordination in such initiatives on Africa through ensuring the effective implementation of existing commitments, including through the African Union/New Partnership for Africa's Development African Action Plan 2010–2015: Advancing Regional and Continental Integration in Africa, which remains at the centre of the continent's engagement with partners;

21. *Encourages* African countries to intensify their efforts to strengthen national statistical capacity in order to produce reliable and timely statistics and indicators for the monitoring of national development policies and strategies and the implementation of commitments and the achievement of all development goals at the national, regional and international levels, and in this regard urges donor countries and organizations and the international and regional statistical communities to support African countries in strengthening statistical capacity in support of development;

22. *Urges* continuous support for measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development in Africa, with special emphasis on the Millennium Development Goals related to poverty and hunger, health, education, the empowerment of women and gender equality, including, as appropriate, debt relief, improved market access, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, enhanced official development assistance, increased foreign direct investment and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, reduced cost of sending remittances through official channels, the empowerment of women in all aspects, including economic and political aspects, the promotion of social protection systems and the conclusion of the Doha round of negotiations of the World Trade Organization;

23. *Underlines* the importance for African Governments to build the productive capacity of agriculture, as a top priority, in order to increase rural incomes and ensure access to food for net food buyers, and stresses that greater efforts should be made to promote and implement sustainable agriculture, increase access for smallholder farmers, in particular women, to necessary agricultural resources, including productive assets, and improve access to infrastructure, information and markets, and that, furthermore, efforts should be made to promote small and medium-sized enterprises that contribute to job growth and increase incomes along the agricultural value stream;

24. *Urges* Governments, within the framework of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, to expand investment financing to agriculture

to at least 10 per cent of the annual budget of the national public sector while at the same time ensuring necessary action in policy and institutional reforms for enhanced performance of the agriculture industry and systems;

25. *Notes* the decision taken by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its nineteenth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 15 and 16 July 2012, to proclaim 2014 the Year of Agriculture and Food Security in Africa to mark the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme;

26. *Recognizes* the need for Africa's development partners that are supporting agriculture and food security in Africa to align their efforts more specifically towards supporting the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, using the Programme's investment plans for alignment of external funding, and in this regard takes note of the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security;[12]

27. *Also recognizes* that the implementation of the commitments made by Governments during the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006) has fallen short of expectations, and welcomes the proclamation of the Second Decade (2008–2017) by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/205 of 19 December 2007 in order to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals;

28. *Urges* African countries to pay close attention to inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth capable of being employment-intensive, including through employment-intensive investment programmes, which should be aimed at reducing inequalities, increasing employment and improving real per capita incomes in both rural and urban areas;

29. *Emphasizes* the need, in particular for African countries, to enhance capacity-building for sustainable development, and in this regard calls for the strengthening of technical and scientific cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, and reiterates the importance of human resources development, including through training, the exchange of experience and expertise, knowledge transfer and technical assistance for capacity-building, which involves strengthening institutional capacity, including planning, management and monitoring capacities;

30. *Also emphasizes* the importance of increasing international cooperation to improve the quality of and access to education, in particular for African countries, including through building and strengthening education-related infrastructure and increasing investment in education, and in this regard notes the Global Education First Initiative of the Secretary-General and its objectives and invites Member States to contribute to the Initiative, as appropriate, including through the allocation of adequate resources;

31. *Urges* African countries and development partners to meet the needs of young people and empower them, in particular by tackling the high levels of youth unemployment through the development of education and training programmes that address illiteracy, enhance the employability and capabilities of young people, facilitate school-to-work transitions and expand guaranteed employment schemes, where appropriate, with particular attention to disadvantaged young people in both rural and urban areas;

[12] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

32. *Recognizes* that improving access to school for all girls and boys, especially the poorest and most vulnerable and marginalized, and their ability to receive a quality education, and improving the quality of education beyond primary school can have a positive impact in terms of empowerment and on social, economic and political participation and thus on the fight against poverty and hunger and can contribute directly to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

33. *Also recognizes* that Africa's youthful population creates significant opportunities for the continent's development, and underlines in this regard the importance of African countries creating appropriate policy environments to take advantage of the continent's demographic transition while adopting an inclusive results-based approach to development planning and implementation in accordance with national priorities and legislation;

34. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations, other relevant institutions and stakeholders, as appropriate, to provide relevant skills training for youth, high-quality health-care services and dynamic labour markets to employ a growing population;

35. *Calls upon* the international community to enhance support and fulfil its commitments to take further action in areas critical to Africa's economic and social development, and welcomes the efforts by development partners to strengthen cooperation with the New Partnership;

36. *Encourages* all development partners to implement principles of aid effectiveness, as recalled in the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development adopted on 2 December 2008 by the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus;[13]

37. *Recognizes* the need for Governments and the international community to continue to make efforts to increase the flow of new and additional resources for financing for development from all sources, public and private, domestic and foreign, to support the development of African countries, and welcomes the various important initiatives established between African countries and their development partners in this regard;

38. *Acknowledges* the activities of the Bretton Woods institutions and the African Development Bank in African countries, and invites those institutions to continue their support for the implementation of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership;

39. *Expresses deep concern* that illicit financial flows and poor legal, fiscal and regulatory frameworks for mineral resources undermine national development efforts, encourages African countries to take measures to address these challenges, and invites development partners to continue to assist African countries in tackling illicit financial flows;

40. *Encourages* Africa's development partners to continue to integrate the priorities, values and principles of the New Partnership into their development assistance programmes;

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[13] General Assembly resolution 63/239, annex.

41. *Encourages* African countries and their development partners to place people at the centre of government development action, to secure core investment spending in health, education and social protection and to give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems, recognizing that social protection floors can provide a basis from which to address poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard takes note of Recommendation No. 202 concerning national floors of social protection, adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 101st session, on 14 June 2012;

42. *Notes* the growing collaboration among the entities of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, and requests the Secretary-General to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa;[14]

43. *Emphasizes* the importance for the cluster working on communication, advocacy and outreach to continue to muster international support for the New Partnership and to urge the United Nations system to demonstrate more evidence of cross-sectoral synergies to promote a comprehensive approach with regard to successive phases of planning and implementation of social development programmes in Africa;

44. *Invites* the Secretary-General, as a follow-up to the 2005 World Summit, to urge the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue to assist African countries in implementing quick-impact initiatives, based on their national development priorities and strategies, to enable them to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and in this respect acknowledges commitments made by development partners;

45. *Encourages* the international community to support African countries in addressing the challenges of climate change by providing the financial and technological resources and capacity-building training needed to support adaptation and mitigation action;

46. *Notes* the decision of the General Assembly to strengthen the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa,[15] enabling it to effectively fulfil its mandate, including by monitoring and reporting on progress related to meeting the special needs of Africa;

47. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to discuss in its annual programme of work those regional programmes that promote social development so as to enable all regions to share experiences and best practices, with the agreement of concerned countries, and in this regard requests that the work programmes of the Commission include priority areas of the New Partnership, as appropriate;

48. *Invites* engagement in intergovernmental efforts to continue to improve the coherence and effectiveness of the United Nations system in support of Africa and to continue to support the Economic Commission for Africa in the execution of its mandate, particularly by working with its members to ensure that the post-2015 development agenda gives due consideration to Africa's social development priorities;

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[14] The nine clusters include infrastructure development; environment, population and urbanization; social and human development; science and technology; advocacy and communication; governance; peace and security; agriculture, food security and rural development; and industry, trade and market access.

[15] See General Assembly resolution 68/247, sect. VIII.

49. *Decides* that the Commission for Social Development should continue to give prominence to and raise awareness of the social dimensions of the New Partnership at its fifty-third session;

50. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and the Economic Commission for Africa, taking into consideration General Assembly resolutions 62/179 of 19 December 2007, 63/267 of 31 March 2009, 64/258 of 16 March 2010, 65/284 of 22 June 2011, 66/286 of 23 July 2012 and 67/294 of 15 August 2013, entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support", to submit to the Commission for Social Development, for its consideration at its fifty-third session, a report on the social dimensions of the New Partnership, including, in cooperation with relevant United Nations bodies, an overview of current processes related to social development in Africa, including recommendations on how to improve the effectiveness of the work of United Nations bodies while preserving the social dimensions of the New Partnership.

23rd plenary meeting
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United Nations E/RES/2014/5

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[*on the recommendation of the Commission for Social Development (E/2014/26)*]

2014/5. Promoting empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2012/7 of 26 July 2012, in which the Council decided that the priority theme for the 2013–2014 review and policy cycle of the Commission for Social Development would be "Promoting empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all",

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[1] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session,[2] as well as a continued global dialogue on social development issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[3] and the development goals contained therein, as well as the commitments made at major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, including the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit[4] and at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,[5] and the outcome of the 2013 special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,[6]

Expressing concern about the crippling effects of poverty, inequality and disparity all over the globe,

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* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

[3] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[4] See General Assembly resolution 60/1.

[5] See General Assembly resolution 65/1.

[6] General Assembly resolution 68/6.

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Recognizing that the empowerment of people is essential to achieving development,

Recognizing also that policies aimed at eradicating poverty, reducing inequality and promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all as well as social integration, and policies intended to foster the empowerment of people, are mutually reinforcing,

Recognizing further that a people-centred approach must be at the centre of social and economic development, and that people should be the key focus of plans, programmes and policies at all levels so that the results of development fairly benefit all people,

Reaffirming that empowerment and participation are important for social development and that sustainable development requires the meaningful involvement and active participation of all, including children, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples and other disadvantaged and vulnerable persons and groups, with due regard to the need for the full and equal participation of women,

Recalling the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities: the way forward, a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond,[7] in which Governments reaffirmed their resolve to work together through a participatory approach involving the public sector and representatives of civil society associations and organizations of persons with disabilities for disability-inclusive development and the commitment of the international community to the advancement of the rights of all persons with disabilities, which is deeply rooted in the goals of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[8] as well as to the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond,

Reaffirming that the empowerment of all people, in particular women and girls as well as youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples and other disadvantaged and vulnerable persons and groups, to strengthen their own capacity to make informed decisions in exercising the right and responsibility to take an active part in the affairs of the community in which they live is a main objective of development and its principal resource, and in this regard that empowerment requires the full participation of people in the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of decisions, as appropriate, determining the functioning and well-being of our societies,

Recalling the outcome document of the third Global Conference on Child Labour, held in Brasilia from 8 to 10 October 2013, and further recalling our understanding that investments in children and the realization of their rights are among the most effective ways to eradicate poverty, our vow to break the cycle of poverty within the framework of the internationally agreed goals, and the need for measures to improve access to free, compulsory and quality education and health care for all children, as well as to the progressive universalization of social protection,

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[7] General Assembly resolution 68/3.

[8] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

Recalling also the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[9] in which Governments reaffirmed the importance of supporting developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty and promote the empowerment of the poor and other disadvantaged and vulnerable persons and groups, including by removing barriers to opportunity, enhancing productive capacity, developing sustainable agriculture and promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all, complemented by effective social policies, including social protection floors,

Recognizing that providing universal access to social services, including quality education, adequate and affordable water and sanitation and health care and other social care services, promoting employment and decent work for all and providing social protection floors consistent with national priorities and circumstances are important instruments for empowering people, and recognizing also the need to mobilize political commitment to full and equal access to and achievement in education of good quality for all, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and people living in rural areas,

Stressing the importance of increasing efforts by the international community, Member States and all relevant groups of society, including social partners, to reduce inequalities and eliminate social exclusion and discrimination,

Acknowledging that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that the mobilization of domestic and international resources for social development and their effective use are central to a global partnership for development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Stressing the importance of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and recalling the decision of the General Assembly to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session the consideration of an appropriate celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the World Summit, in 2015, in the context of coordinated and integrated follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

Acknowledging the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[10]

2. *Reaffirms* that the ultimate goal of social development is to improve and enhance the quality of life of all people and that empowerment and participation are essential for democracy, harmony and social development;

3. *Also reaffirms* the commitment made by Member States in the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[11] to ensure

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[9] General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

[10] E/CN.5/2014/3.

[11] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

substantial public investment and promote private investment in human resource development and in capacity-building, including in health and education and social protection, as well as in empowerment and participation, especially for people living in poverty or suffering from social exclusion;

4. *Stresses* that Member States should prioritize the creation of a "society for all" with respect for the human rights of all individuals and based on equality, mutual responsibility and cooperation, access to essential services, including health care and social care services, and the promotion of the active participation of every member of society, without discrimination, in civic, social, economic, cultural and political activities, as well as participation in decision-making processes;

5. *Reaffirms* the commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women, as well as to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all development efforts, recognizing that these are critical for achieving sustainable development and for efforts to combat hunger, poverty and disease and to strengthen policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, as equal partners, and to improve their access to all resources needed for the full exercise of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms by removing persistent barriers, including ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work, as well as strengthening their economic independence, and also emphasizes that the education of women and girls is essential for poverty eradication and for their empowerment;

6. *Stresses* that special efforts should be made to foster the participation of all people, including women, people living in poverty and those belonging to disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, including children, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples, in all aspects of political, economic, social, civic and cultural life, in particular the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, as appropriate, of policies that affect them;

7. *Calls upon* Member States to continue their efforts to strive for more inclusive, equitable, balanced, stable and development-oriented sustainable socioeconomic approaches to overcoming poverty, and, in view of the negative impact of inequalities on poverty, emphasizes the importance of improving access to quality education, employment, water and sanitation, health care and social protection;

8. *Encourages* Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, including social partners, as appropriate, to continue to develop, improve and implement inclusive, effective and sustainable social protection systems and social protection floors based on national priorities for all members of society, including women as well as disadvantaged and vulnerable persons and groups, and in this regard takes note of Recommendation No. 202 concerning national floors of social protection, adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organization on 14 June 2012;

9. *Also encourages* Governments to continue to develop and strengthen policies, strategies and programmes to enhance, in particular, the employability of women and youth as well as older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and members of other disadvantaged groups and to ensure their access to full and productive employment and decent work;

10. *Urges* Member States and, as appropriate, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, within their

respective mandates, as well as all relevant actors, to continue to develop and strengthen policies, strategies and programmes to enhance the employability of all members of society and to ensure their access to full and productive employment and decent work, including by improving access to formal and non-formal education, skills development and vocational training, lifelong learning and retraining, and long-distance education, including in information and communications technology and entrepreneurial skills, particularly in developing countries, including with a view to supporting the economic empowerment of all members of society in the different stages of their lives;

11. *Recognizes* that the creation of full and productive employment and decent work should be a central objective of national policies and that macroeconomic policy should contribute to creating more and better job opportunities and an environment that supports investment, growth and entrepreneurship, which is essential to the creation of new jobs;

12. *Also recognizes* that access to employment and decent work for all and social dialogue are essential for people's empowerment and participation, and calls for Member States to respect, promote and realize fundamental principles and rights at work, in accordance with the International Labour Organization Declaration of Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work;

13. *Stresses* the relevance of the World Programme of Action for Youth,[12] including its priority areas regarding poverty, employment, participation and education, for the empowerment and development of youth, and in this regard recognizes the need to improve opportunities for young people to gain access to productive employment and decent work through increased investment in youth employment, active labour market support and public-private partnerships, as well as through the creation of enabling environments to facilitate the participation of young people in labour markets, in accordance with international rules and commitments;

14. *Reaffirms* the need to enhance the welfare of women, children, youth, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, older persons and smallholder and subsistence farmers and to improve the livelihoods and empowerment of the poor and other disadvantaged and vulnerable persons and groups, in particular in developing countries;

15. *Stresses* the importance of implementing the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002[13] in order to, inter alia, help societies to balance the needs of different generations in their policies, promote economic empowerment and avoid age-based discrimination against older persons;

16. *Encourages* Governments to strengthen access to productive resources for disadvantaged and vulnerable persons, including by securing land tenure rights and other rights related to the use of natural resources in accordance with national legislation, priorities and policies and by improving access to a broad range of appropriate financial services;

17. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen the capacity of national financial institutions to reach out to those who have no access to banking, insurance

[12] General Assembly resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

[13] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

and other financial services, and also encourages them to adopt regulatory and supervisory frameworks that facilitate the safe and sound provision of services to such populations, increase access to information and promote financial literacy, particularly for women;

18. *Stresses* the potential of information and communications technology to improve the quality of life of all people in order to enable them to better participate in sustainable development and the global economy, and in this regard calls upon Member States, with the support of the United Nations system, donors, the private sector and civil society, to promote universal, non-discriminatory, equitable, safe and affordable access to information and communications technology, especially in schools and public places, and to remove the barriers to bridging the digital divide;

19. *Invites* Governments to enhance the capacity of the public administration to be transparent, accountable and responsive to the needs and aspirations of all people, without discrimination of any kind, and to foster broad-based participation in governance and development processes;

20. *Recognizes* that supportive institutional structures and participatory mechanisms, including consultative democratic institutions and processes, are necessary for the empowerment of people and that special efforts should be made to promote participation in policymaking and governance processes in all aspects of political, economic, social and cultural life and to enhance the capacity of national institutions to be responsive to the needs and aspirations of all members of society;

21. *Encourages* Member States to take all measures necessary to eliminate discrimination of any kind against all persons, without distinction of any kind, in particular those living in poverty, in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[8] to refrain from adopting any laws, regulations or practices denying or limiting the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including economic, social and cultural as well as civil and political rights, and to ensure that people, in particular those living in poverty and women, have equal access to justice;

22. *Encourages* the international community to support developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty and promote empowerment of the poor and disadvantaged and vulnerable persons and groups, with a view to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, improving access to finance, microfinance and credit, removing barriers to opportunity, enhancing productive capacity, developing sustainable agriculture and promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all, complemented by national efforts on comprehensive social policy systems, including social protection floors, and in this regard takes note of International Labour Organization Recommendation No. 202 concerning national floors of social protection;

23. *Recognizes* that there is a need for all donors to maintain and deliver on their existing bilateral and multilateral official development assistance commitments and targets and that the full implementation of those commitments will substantially support the efforts of developing countries to achieve the social development objectives by promoting the empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all;

24. *Invites* Member States to give due consideration to promoting the empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda, and encourages Member States, in cooperation with civil

society, the private sector, academia and social organizations, to make every possible effort to support good governance at the national and international levels and address the needs of the most vulnerable as well as promote their participation in decision-making processes;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include, in his report entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", to be submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session, policy recommendations on the empowerment of people, taking into account the discussions held at the fifty-second session of the Commission for Social Development under the priority theme.

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United Nations E/RES/2014/6

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[*on the recommendation of the Commission for Social Development (E/2014/26)*]

2014/6. Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and mainstreaming disability in the post-2015 development agenda

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995,[1] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,[2]

Reaffirming the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[3] adopted on 13 December 2006, as a landmark convention affirming the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, and recognizing that it is both a human rights treaty and a development tool,

Recalling earlier operational frameworks, such as the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons[4] and the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,[5]

Welcoming the adoption of the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities: the way forward, a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond, held on 23 September 2013,[6] in which the Assembly reaffirmed the need for the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond,

* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[2] General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[4] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

[5] General Assembly resolution 48/96, annex.

[6] General Assembly resolution 68/3.

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recognizing persons with disabilities as agents and beneficiaries of development and acknowledging the value of their contributions to the general well-being, progress and diversity of society,

Convinced that addressing the profound social, cultural and economic disadvantage and exclusion experienced by many persons with disabilities, promoting the use of universal design, as appropriate, as well as the progressive removal of barriers to the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of development, and promoting the equal enjoyment by persons with disabilities of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights will further the equalization of opportunities and contribute to the realization of a "society for all" in the twenty-first century,

Noting that, while progress has already been made by Governments, the international community and the United Nations system in mainstreaming disability as an integral part of the global development agenda, major challenges remain,

Welcoming the efforts of the United Nations to improve accessibility, in particular the opening of the Accessibility Centre at United Nations Headquarters in New York, which contributes to a disability-inclusive United Nations by facilitating the participation of persons with disabilities in the meetings of the United Nations and their access to the documentation of the United Nations,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming disability in the development agenda towards 2015 and beyond;[7]

2. *Welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development, and takes note of his report on monitoring of the implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities;[8]

3. *Also welcomes* the appointment of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility, bearing in mind the need to create synergies with the existing United Nations mechanisms;

4. *Notes* the expiry of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on disability on 31 December 2014, and in this regard decides that the Commission shall consider at its fifty-third session the possibility of another monitoring mechanism, with a view to strengthening the mainstreaming of disability in social development;

5. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to promote the implementation of the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities[6] and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[3] including by supporting the relevant efforts of Member States and other stakeholders, and to further contribute to the development of a disability-inclusive, equitable and sustainable post-2015 development framework;

6. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant regional organizations and United Nations bodies and agencies to ensure that all development policies and programmes, including those regarding poverty eradication, social protection, full and productive employment and decent work, and appropriate measures for financial

[7] E/CN.5/2014/6.

[8] E/CN.5/2014/7.

inclusion as well as accessible community and housing development, take into account the needs, rights and potentials of and benefit all persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others;

7. *Encourages* Member States, relevant regional organizations and United Nations bodies and agencies to achieve the full application and implementation of the international normative framework on disability and development by encouraging the ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and by considering the ratification of the Optional Protocol thereto,[9] as both human rights and development instruments;

8. *Emphasizes* the need for measures to ensure that persons with disabilities, in particular women, children, youth, indigenous peoples and older persons, are not subject to multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination or excluded from participation on an equal basis with others in the implementation of the international development goals;

9. *Decides* to continue to give due consideration to the issue of disability and development, including within the framework of United Nations operational activities, in accordance with relevant mandates, in order to enhance awareness and cooperation at all levels, including the participation, where appropriate, of United Nations agencies, multilateral development banks and institutions and other relevant stakeholders, while ensuring coordination and avoiding any possible overlapping;

10. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations agencies and bodies, development agencies and international organizations and encourages the private sector to regard accessibility as both a means and a goal of inclusive and sustainable development and therefore an essential investment that benefits all members of society; hence accessibility should be an integral part of programmes and projects relating to the built environment, transportation and information and communications technologies;

11. *Encourages* the mobilization of resources on a sustainable basis to mainstream disability in development at all levels, and in this regard underlines the need to promote and strengthen international cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, in support of national efforts, including, as appropriate, through the establishment of national mechanisms, in particular in developing countries;

12. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and all relevant stakeholders to improve disability data collection, analysis and monitoring for development policy planning, implementation and evaluation, taking fully into account regional contexts, to share, where appropriate, relevant data and statistics with relevant agencies and bodies within the United Nations system, including the Statistical Commission, through appropriate mechanisms, and to underline the need for internationally comparable data and statistics disaggregated by sex and age, including information on disability;

13. *Underlines* the importance of closely consulting with and actively involving persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in the elaboration of the emerging post-2015 United Nations development agenda;

[9] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2518, No. 44910.

14. *Calls upon* all Governments to continue to cooperate and engage in direct dialogue with the Special Rapporteur and to provide him or her with all the relevant information needed to fulfil his or her mandate effectively;

15. *Expresses concern* at the insufficiency of resources for the Special Rapporteur, and recognizes the importance of providing adequate resources for the implementation of the mandate by the Special Rapporteur;

16. *Encourages* Governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability;

17. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the Commission for Social Development at its fifty-third session an annual report on his or her activities in implementing the present resolution.

23rd plenary meeting
12 June 2014

United Nations E/RES/2014/7

Economic and Social Council

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Item 17 (*b*) of the provisional agenda*

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 12 June 2014

[*on the recommendation of the Commission for Social Development (E/2014/26)*]

2014/7. Further implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling that, in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, adopted by the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002,[1] the systematic review of its implementation by Member States was requested as being essential for its success in improving the quality of life of older persons,

Bearing in mind that, in its resolution 42/1 of 13 February 2004,[2] the Commission for Social Development decided to undertake the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action every five years,

Recalling its resolution 2013/29 of 25 July 2013 on the second review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 68/134 of 18 December 2013 and previous Assembly resolutions on ageing, as well as Human Rights Council resolution 24/20 of 27 September 2013[3] and its previous resolutions on ageing,

Noting that the third review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action will take place in 2017,

Noting also the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, established by the General Assembly in paragraph 28 of its resolution 65/182 of 21 December 2010,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[4]

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* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

[1] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 6* (E/2004/26), chap. I, sect. E.

[3] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

[4] E/CN.5/2014/4.

14-56919 (E)

Please recycle

Recognizing that, in many parts of the world, awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action remains limited or non-existent, which limits the scope of implementation efforts,

Bearing in mind that the second review and appraisal highlighted several major challenges faced by older persons in most regions that undermined the social, economic and cultural participation of the aged, namely, income security, access to age-appropriate health-care services, access to labour markets and social protection, protection from abuse and violence, and age discrimination,

Affirming the importance of national capacity-building as a prerequisite for successful implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action and an important component in promoting and protecting the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons,

Stressing the need to continue international cooperation, including through technical assistance for countries, aimed at strengthening the promotion and protection of the rights of older persons, including the development of relevant national strategies, according to national development plans,

Recognizing the importance of integrating ageing into existing processes and work programmes of the United Nations system and its development activities and of including older persons in policy implementation and evaluation on a regular basis,

Recognizing also the essential contribution that older men and women can make to the development of their societies and communities and to the well-being of the family, which can be enhanced by supportive policies, and stressing that older persons must be full participants in national development processes and share in the benefits of development,

Emphasizing the particular risks faced by older persons of neglect, physical and psychological abuse and violence, including in emergency situations,

Recognizing that population ageing is among the contributing factors to the rising incidence and prevalence of non-communicable diseases,

Recognizing also the vulnerability of older women to disability owing, inter alia, to gender differences in life expectancy and disease susceptibility and gender inequalities over the life course, and calling for the elimination of gender- and age-based social and economic inequalities in the provision of health-care services,

1. *Expresses concern* that when ageing has not received adequate attention it has led to older persons being overlooked by and omitted from national development plans, poverty-reduction strategies and national employment priorities;

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue their efforts to mainstream the rights and concerns of older persons into their policy agendas in order to adequately address the social, economic, cultural, political and other factors that make older persons vulnerable to poverty, unemployment, inequality, humanitarian emergencies, natural disasters, violence, gender discrimination, social exclusion and marginalization;

3. *Also encourages* Member States to narrow gaps between policy and practice in the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[1] and to consider the elaboration of national implementation strategies, which include efforts to enhance national capacity-building on ageing,

inter alia, by building institutional infrastructures, investing in human resources and mobilizing financial resources;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to participate effectively in the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action through, inter alia, improving data collection and sharing ideas, information and good practices;

5. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to set time-bound benchmarks for action at the national level based on the shortcomings and priorities identified at the national and regional levels of review and appraisal, in order to enhance implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action;

6. *Recognizes* that ageism is a widely prevalent and prejudicial attitude that may rest on the assumption that neglect of and discrimination against older persons is acceptable and that ageism is the common source of, the justification for and the driving force behind age discrimination;

7. *Encourages* Member States to promote social integration and the realization of all human rights for older persons and to prevent age discrimination;

8. *Calls upon* Member States to adopt appropriate measures, including, if necessary, legislative measures at the national level to promote and protect the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons and to promote their full social, economic, cultural and political participation;

9. *Encourages* Member States to consider including in their national strategies, inter alia, policy implementation approaches, such as empowerment and participation, gender equality, awareness-raising and capacity development, and such essential policy implementation tools as evidence-based policymaking, mainstreaming, participatory approaches and indicators;

10. *Also encourages* Member States to strengthen efforts to develop their national capacity to set priorities and address the national implementation priorities identified during the review and appraisal exercise, bearing in mind the specific needs of older persons in natural disasters and emergencies, including through the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

11. *Further encourages* Member States to establish or strengthen strategic approaches and policy options in relation to the physical and mental health of older persons in the light of new and emerging disease patterns, notably non-communicable diseases, and increased life expectancy, with particular attention to addressing health needs across a care continuum, including prevention, detection and diagnosis, management and rehabilitation, treatment and palliative care, with the aim of achieving comprehensive health-care coverage for older persons;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to continue their efforts to promote the participation of older persons in the decision-making process affecting their lives and ageing with dignity;

13. *Recognizes* the crucial importance of family intergenerational interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for sustainable social development, and encourages Member States to reinforce the intergenerational transmission of knowledge and positive values, including by acknowledging the instructive role of grandparents;

14. *Encourages* Member States to provide services and support to older persons, including grandparents, who have assumed responsibility for children who

were abandoned or whose parents are deceased, have migrated or are otherwise unable to care for their dependants;

15. *Also encourages* Member States to support the national and international research community in developing studies on the impact of the Madrid Plan of Action on older persons and national social policies;

16. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other regional and subregional mechanisms, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts and to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate, practical and specific information and analysis on ageing, gender and disability, such as for policy planning, monitoring and evaluation;

17. *Invites* Member States to establish and/or strengthen partnerships with civil society organizations and organizations of older persons in order to improve their national capacity for policy formulation, implementation and monitoring in the area of ageing;

18. *Stresses* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level guided by each country's needs in order to promote and facilitate the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and in this connection encourages Member States to support the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing in order to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

19. *Encourages* the international community to enhance international cooperation to support national efforts to eradicate poverty, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, in order to achieve sustainable social and economic support for older persons, including to build capacity on ageing through stronger partnerships with civil society, such as organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations and community- and faith-based organizations, and with the private sector;

20. *Invites* Member States and all other major national and international stakeholders to continue their cooperation with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, as the United Nations global focal point on ageing, in further implementing the Madrid Plan of Action;

21. *Acknowledges* the essential contributions of the United Nations regional commissions to the implementation, review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action, including the organization of regional review and appraisal meetings and the preparation of their outcome documents, and calls upon the Secretary-General to strengthen the work of the regional commissions, including their focal points on ageing, to enable them to continue their regional implementation activities;

22. *Invites* all relevant United Nations entities that can contribute to advancing the situation of older persons to, within their respective mandates, give greater priority to addressing the needs and concerns of older persons, while maximizing synergies;

23. *Recommends* that the situation of older persons, including the issues of poverty eradication, social integration, non-discrimination and empowerment, be taken into account in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and be

given due consideration in the elaboration of the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States and other relevant stakeholders on:

(*a*) A possible theme or themes for the third review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action, to be held in 2017;

(*b*) How the review and appraisal process could better contribute to advancing the social integration and broad-based participation of older persons in development;

(*c*) How the mainstreaming of issues of ageing and older persons into the work of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council could be achieved;

25. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission for Social Development at its fifty-third session, in 2015, a report on the modalities of the third review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action.

23rd plenary meeting
12 June 2014

United Nations E/RES/2014/8

Economic and Social Council

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[*on the recommendation of the Commission for Social Development (E/2014/26)*]

2014/8. Observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 47/237 of 20 September 1993, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999, 56/113 of 19 December 2001, 57/164 of 18 December 2002, 58/15 of 3 December 2003, 59/111 of 6 December 2004, 59/147 of 20 December 2004, 60/133 of 16 December 2005, 62/129 of 18 December 2007, 64/133 of 18 December 2009, 66/126 of 19 December 2011, 67/142 of 20 December 2012 and 68/136 of 18 December 2013 concerning the proclamation of, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family and its tenth and twentieth anniversaries,

Recognizing that the preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year provide a useful opportunity to draw further attention to the objectives of the Year for increasing cooperation at all levels on family issues and for undertaking concerted actions to strengthen family-centred policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Recognizing also that the follow-up to the International Year is an integral part of the agenda and of the multi-year programme of work of the Commission for Social Development,

Recognizing further that the family, as the natural and fundamental group unit of society, has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children and that children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

Stressing the importance of creating a conducive environment to strengthen and support all families, recognizing that equality between women and men and respect for all of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all family members are essential to family well-being and to society at large, noting the importance of

* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

14-56920 (E)

Please recycle

reconciliation of work and family life and recognizing the principle of shared parental responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child,

Convinced that equality between men and women, women's equal participation in employment and shared parental responsibility are essential elements of policy on the family,

Recognizing that the overall objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes continue to guide national and international efforts to improve family well-being worldwide and address emerging issues that impact the family,

Noting the importance of designing, implementing and monitoring family-oriented policies, especially in the areas of poverty eradication, full employment and decent work, work-family balance, social integration and intergenerational solidarity,

Recognizing that the family can contribute to eradicating poverty and hunger, achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality and empowering women, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health and combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases,

Noting that single-headed households, child-headed households, intergenerational and intragenerational households are particularly vulnerable to poverty and social exclusion,

Acknowledging that the family plays a key role in social development and as such should be strengthened, with attention to the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of its members,

Noting the active role of the United Nations in enhancing international cooperation in family-related issues, particularly in the areas of research and information, including the compilation, analysis and dissemination of data,

Emphasizing that it is necessary to increase coordination of the activities of the United Nations system on family-related issues in order to contribute fully to the effective implementation of the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes,

Convinced that civil society, including research and academic institutions, has a pivotal role in advocacy, promotion, research and policymaking and, as appropriate, policy evaluation, in respect of family policy development and capacity-building,

Recalling that the twentieth anniversary of the International Year will be observed during the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2014[1] and the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Recalls its invitation* to all States to view 2014 as a target year by which concrete efforts will be taken to improve family well-being through the implementation of effective national policies, strategies and programmes;

3. *Encourages* Governments to make every possible effort to realize the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes and to integrate a family perspective into national policymaking;

[1] A/69/61-E/2014/4.

4. *Urges* Member States to give due consideration to advancing family policy development in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

5. *Invites* Member States and the organizations of the United Nations system as well as other relevant stakeholders to take into account the role of the family as a contributor to sustainable development and the need to strengthen family policy development in their ongoing efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, the Millennium Development Goals and future United Nations development goals;

6. *Encourages* Member States to take into consideration the panel discussion held in observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year at the fifty-second session of the Commission for Social Development in order to guide its future deliberations on family issues, with the aim of establishing appropriate follow-up processes to guide national policy development;

7. *Also encourages* Member States to strengthen or, if necessary, establish relevant national agencies or governmental bodies responsible for the implementation and monitoring of family policies and to research the impact of social policies on the family and its members;

8. *Further encourages* Member States to continue their efforts to develop appropriate policies to address family poverty, social exclusion, work-family balance and intergenerational solidarity and to share good practices in those areas;

9. *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations and regional entities, civil society organizations, the private sector and academic institutions to promote and advance family empowerment through appropriate family-centred policies and programmes;

10. *Encourages* Member States to adopt effective means to reduce family poverty and prevent the intergenerational transfer of poverty through family-centred benefits and social protection measures, such as old-age pensions, cash transfers, housing assistance, child benefits and tax breaks;

11. *Also encourages* Member States to promote family policies in support of work-family balance and to strengthen flexible provisions for parental leave, extend flexible working arrangements for employees with family responsibilities, including flexible part-time job opportunities and arrangements, promote gender equality and empowerment of women, including by eliminating workplace discrimination against women and men with family responsibilities, and enhance paternal involvement and shouldering of responsibilities and support a wide range of quality childcare arrangements, noting the importance of reconciliation of work and family life and recognizing the principle that both parents have common responsibilities for the upbringing and development of the child;

12. *Further encourages* Member States to invest in intergenerational programmes for helping families in their caregiving responsibilities, including care for family members of all ages, and facilitating intergenerational exchanges and support through, inter alia, the provision of social protection schemes, including pensions, and investment in cross-generational facilities, volunteering programmes aimed at youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, mentoring and job-sharing programmes;

13. *Encourages* Member States to develop and implement policies and national strategies to prevent violence within the family as a whole, including child

abuse, elder abuse and domestic violence, and thereby enhance the well-being of all of its members;

14. *Recommends* that United Nations agencies and bodies, including the regional commissions, and invites relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and research and academic institutions, to work closely with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in a coordinated manner on family-related issues;

15. *Encourages* Member States to consider establishing partnerships with civil society organizations, the private sector and academic institutions, as appropriate, in support of family-oriented policy and programme design;

16. *Encourages* Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to continue research activities and provide assistance to countries, upon their request;

17. *Encourages* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, within existing resources, to continue to cooperate with Governments, the United Nations system and civil society in strengthening national capacities through the implementation of the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes;

18. *Invites* Member States, United Nations agencies and bodies, civil society organizations and academic institutions to continue providing information on their activities in support of the objectives of the International Year and its follow-up processes and to share good practices and data on family policy development to be included in the relevant reports of the Secretary-General.

23rd plenary meeting
12 June 2014

United Nations E/RES/2014/9

Economic and Social Council

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Item 16 (*a*) of the provisional agenda*

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 13 June 2014

[*on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2014/L.15)*]

2014/9. Report of the Committee for Development Policy

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 59/209 of 20 December 2004 and 67/221 of 21 December 2012, both on a smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the category of least developed countries, and resolution 65/280 of 17 June 2011, by which the Assembly endorsed the Istanbul Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,[1]

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 68/18 of 4 December 2013, by which the Assembly took note of the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council of the recommendation of the Committee for Development Policy that Equatorial Guinea and Vanuatu be graduated from the least developed country category,

Recalling further that graduation becomes effective three years after the date on which the General Assembly takes note of the recommendation of the Committee and that, during the three-year period, the country remains on the list of least developed countries and maintains the advantages associated with membership on that list,

Reiterating its conviction that no country graduating from the least developed country category should have its development progress disrupted or reversed,

Recalling its resolutions 1998/46 of 31 July 1998, 2007/34 of 27 July 2007 and 2013/20 of 24 July 2013,

Bearing in mind the importance of maintaining stability in the criteria and in the application of the established procedures for inclusion in and graduation from the least developed country category so as to ensure the credibility of the process and, consequently, of the category of least developed countries, while giving due consideration to the specific challenges and vulnerabilities and the development needs of countries potentially graduating or being considered for graduation from the least developed country category,

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* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

[1] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chaps. I and II.

14-56921 (E)

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1. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its sixteenth session;[2]

2. *Notes* the work done by the Committee on global governance and global rules for development in the post-2015 era, in accordance with the theme of the annual ministerial review of the Economic and Social Council in 2014, on the role of country groupings for development cooperation, on the monitoring of countries graduating and graduated from the least developed country category and on the review and refining of the criteria for classifying countries as least developed in preparation for the triennial review of the least developed country category in 2015;

3. *Requests* the Committee, at its seventeenth session, to examine and make recommendations on the annual theme of the programme of work of the Council and the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2015;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the General Assembly to take note of the endorsement by the Council of the recommendation of the Committee that Equatorial Guinea and Vanuatu be graduated from the least developed country category;

5. *Requests* the Committee to monitor the development progress of countries graduating and graduated from the category of least developed countries, in accordance with paragraph 21 of General Assembly resolution 67/221;

6. *Reiterates* the invitation by the General Assembly for Equatorial Guinea and Vanuatu to prepare their national transition strategy with the support of the United Nations system and in cooperation with their bilateral and multilateral development and trading partners and to report annually to the Committee on the preparation of that strategy;

7. *Acknowledges with satisfaction* the contributions made by the Committee to various aspects of the programme of work of the Council, reiterates its invitation for increased interactions between the Council and the Committee, and encourages the Chair and, as necessary, other members of the Committee to continue this practice, as specified in Council resolution 2011/20 of 27 July 2011, within existing resources and as appropriate.

24th plenary meeting
13 June 2014

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[2] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 13* (E/2014/33).

United Nations E/RES/2014/10

Economic and Social Council

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14 August 2014

2014 session
Item 10 (*f*) of the provisional agenda*

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 13 June 2014

[*on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2014/L.13)*]

2014/10. United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2013/12 of 22 July 2013 on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases,

Taking note of General Assembly resolution 68/271 of 13 May 2014 on the scope and modalities of the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases to be held on 10 and 11 July 2014,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization on the Task Force,[1]

Acknowledging that the global burden and threat of non-communicable diseases, principally cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, which are linked to four main risk factors, namely, tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, an unhealthy diet and lack of physical activity, as well as the global burden of mental health issues constitute major challenges for the economic and social development of many Member States and may lead to increasing inequalities within and between countries and populations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the World Health Organization formal meeting of Member States to complete the work on the terms of reference for the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases,[2] and the recommendation of the World Health Assembly to submit the proposed terms of reference to the Economic and Social Council;

2. *Endorses* the terms of reference for the Task Force, including a division of tasks and responsibilities for United Nations funds, programmes and agencies and other international organizations, as contained in the appendix to the above-mentioned report of the Director-General of the World Health Organization;[1]

* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

[1] E/2014/55.

[2] Ibid., annex.

14-56922 (E)

Please recycle

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its 2015 session on the implementation of its resolution 2013/12, and in this regard decides that, under the agenda item entitled "Coordination, programme and other questions", the title of the sub-item "Tobacco or health" shall be revised to read "Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases".

24th plenary meeting
13 June 2014

United Nations E/RES/2014/11

Economic and Social Council

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Item 9 (*a*) of the provisional agenda*

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 13 June 2014

[*on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2014/L.16)*]

2014/11. Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, and the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit, held in New York from 14 to 16 September 2005, and its outcome document,[1]

Recalling further the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, held in New York from 24 to 30 June 2009, and its outcome document,[2]

Recalling the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held in New York from 20 to 22 September 2010, and its outcome document,[3] and the special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, convened by the President of the Assembly on 25 September 2013, and its outcome document,[4]

Recalling also the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document,[5]

Recalling further General Assembly resolutions 68/1 of 20 September 2013 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council, 68/204 of 20 December 2013 on the follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development and 65/146 of 20 December 2010 on innovative mechanisms of financing for development, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2009/30 of 31 July 2009 on a

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* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

[1] General Assembly resolution 60/1.

[2] General Assembly resolution 63/303, annex.

[3] General Assembly resolution 65/1.

[4] General Assembly resolution 68/6.

[5] General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

14-56923 (E)

Please recycle

strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process to carry out the financing for development follow-up and 2013/44 of 26 July 2013 on the follow-up to the International Conference, and all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly and the Council,

Taking note of the summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the special high-level meeting of the Council with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in New York on 14 and 15 April 2014,[6]

Taking note also of the note by the Secretary-General on coherence, coordination and cooperation in the context of financing for sustainable development and the post-2015 development agenda,[7]

Reaffirming the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[8] in its entirety, its integrity and its holistic approach, and recalling the resolve to take concrete action to implement the Monterrey Consensus and address the challenges of financing for development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Reaffirming also that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized for the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

Acknowledging the impact of the global financial and economic crisis on development, recognizing evidence of an uneven and fragile recovery, expressing its appreciation for the efforts that helped to contain tail risks, improve financial market conditions and sustain recovery, and acknowledging also that an effective response to the impacts of the crisis requires timely implementation of all development commitments,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of staying fully engaged, nationally, regionally and internationally, in ensuring proper and effective follow-up to the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[8] as reaffirmed in the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, adopted by the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[9] and of continuing unremitting efforts to build bridges between all relevant stakeholders within the holistic agenda of the financing for development process;

2. *Reiterates* the role played by the United Nations as a focal point for the financing for development follow-up process and the need to maintain that role to ensure the continuity and dynamism of the process, while reaffirming the need to further intensify the engagement of all stakeholders, including the United Nations

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[6] A/69/83-E/2014/71.

[7] E/2014/53.

[8] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[9] General Assembly resolution 63/239, annex.

system, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization, in the follow-up to and implementation of the commitments made at Monterrey and Doha;

3. *Welcomes* the decision made by the General Assembly, in its resolution 68/204 on the follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development, to convene a third international conference on financing for development;

4. *Also welcomes* the conclusion of the consultations on the modalities for the third International Conference on Financing for Development;

5. *Reiterates* that the Economic and Social Council should continue to strengthen its role in promoting coherence, coordination and cooperation in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration and as a forum for multi-stakeholder involvement;

6. *Welcomes*, in that regard, the ongoing efforts, in accordance with resolution 68/1 and the annex thereto, to strengthen the Council within its mandate under the Charter of the United Nations, as a principal organ in the integrated and coordinated follow-up of the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields, and to ensure its key role in achieving a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development;

7. *Looks forward* to the reports of the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing and of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, as mandated in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,[5] as well as the synthesis report of the Secretary-General, as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/6 of 9 October 2013, which are to serve as important inputs to the preparations for the third International Conference on Financing for Development, the outcome of which should constitute an important contribution to and support the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda;

8. *Emphasizes* the need for effective coordination between the preparatory process for the third International Conference on Financing for Development and the preparations for the summit to be held in September 2015 for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, in order to promote coherence and to minimize duplication of effort;

9. *Encourages* the Financing for Development Office of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to continue providing effective secretariat support to the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing and to the preparations for the third International Conference on Financing for Development, in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, in order to ensure a coherent and integrated approach with other related processes;

10. *Emphasizes* that the financing for development follow-up process should constitute a continuum of events, each contributing to and feeding into the next, ensuring the holistic nature of the process and making better and more effective use of existing mechanisms and resources;

11. *Welcomes* the substantive discussions at the previous High-level Dialogues on Financing for Development of the General Assembly and the special high-level meeting of the Council with the World Bank, the International Monetary

Fund, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and emphasizes that those discussions are an integral and mutually reinforcing part of the financing for development follow-up process, including the preparations for the third International Conference on Financing for Development;

12. *Stresses* the need to further improve the dialogue between Member States and representatives of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development during the special high-level meeting of the Council, as part of a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue;

13. *Welcomes* the increased interaction and coordination at the staff level with the institutions involved prior to the special high-level meeting of the Council;

14. *Recognizes* the efforts of the President of the Economic and Social Council, in consultation with Member States, to continue to work with the appropriate representatives of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to improve the agenda and the format of the special high-level meeting of the Council, considering innovative approaches that are conducive, inter alia, to the high-level participation of those institutions;

15. *Requests* the President of the Council, in close consultation with Member States, to continue close cooperation and dialogue with the relevant organizations and stakeholders on all the elements of the preparations for the special high-level meeting of the Council, in particular the date and agenda of the meeting of the following year, in order to seek a more interactive, dynamic and substantive discussion on key issues related to the financing for development framework;

16. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken to give more prominence to the consideration of the agenda item on financing for development during the annual substantive session of the Council, including its coordination and management meetings, and stresses the need to continue to improve those modalities;

17. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to consider organizing seminars, panel discussions and briefings as part of the preparations for and contribution to the above-mentioned events in order to raise visibility, attract interest and participation and promote substantive discussions on a continuing basis;

18. *Notes* the ongoing discussions on innovative mechanisms of financing for development, while reiterating that such voluntary mechanisms should supplement and not be a substitute for traditional sources of financing;

19. *Reiterates* the importance of further improving cooperation between the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration, based on a clear understanding of and respect for their respective mandates and governance structures;

20. *Welcomes*, in that regard, the invitation by the Chairman of the joint Development Committee of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund to the President of the Council to participate in the meeting of the Committee, and notes that the participation of the President of the Council in meetings of the intergovernmental bodies of the international organizations, as appropriate, can contribute to the financing for development follow-up process;

21. *Encourages* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, especially the Financing for Development Office, to maintain regular interaction at the staff level with the World Bank Group, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the interest of greater coherence, coordination and cooperation, each acting in accordance with its respective mandates and governance structures;

22. *Reiterates its appeal* to Member States and other potential donors to consider contributing generously to the Trust Fund for the Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development, which would facilitate the implementation of a strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process to carry out the financing for development follow-up, including the preparations for the third International Conference on Financing for Development.

25th plenary meeting
13 June 2014

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
19 August 2014

2014 session
Item 16 (*h*) of the provisional agenda*

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 13 June 2014

[*on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2014/L.17)*]

2014/12. Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2004/69 of 11 November 2004 and 2013/24 of 24 July 2013,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013,

Recognizing the call made in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development for the strengthening of international tax cooperation through enhanced dialogue among national tax authorities and greater coordination of the work of the multilateral bodies and relevant regional organizations concerned, giving special attention to the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition,[1]

Recalling the request to the Economic and Social Council made in the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus[2] and the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development[3] to examine the strengthening of the institutional arrangements to promote international cooperation in tax matters, including the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters,

Recalling also its decision to hold, on an annual basis, a special meeting of the Council to consider international cooperation in tax matters, including, as appropriate, its contribution to mobilizing domestic financial resources for development and the institutional arrangements to promote such cooperation,

Recognizing that, while each country is responsible for its tax system, it is important to support efforts in these areas by strengthening technical assistance and

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* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

[1] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, para. 64.

[2] General Assembly resolution 63/239, annex, para. 16.

[3] General Assembly resolution 63/303, annex, para. 56 (*c*).

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enhancing international cooperation and participation in addressing international tax matters, including in the area of double taxation,

Recognizing also the need for an inclusive, participatory and broad-based dialogue on international cooperation in tax matters,

Noting the activities developing and launched within concerned multilateral bodies and relevant subregional and regional organizations, and recognizing ongoing efforts to promote collaboration between the United Nations and other international bodies dealing with cooperation in tax matters,

Taking note of the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its sixteenth session,[4]

Welcoming the discussion in the Council on 5 June 2014 on international cooperation in tax matters[5] and its contribution to promoting the work of the Committee of Experts,

Noting the workshop on protecting the tax base of developing countries, held at United Nations Headquarters on 4 June 2014,

Taking note of the report of the Committee on its ninth session,[6]

1. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters to implement the mandate given to it by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2004/69, and encourages the Committee to continue its efforts in this regard;

2. *Notes* the decision of the Committee, at its ninth session, to set up six subcommittees on substantial matters, namely article 9 (associated enterprises); transfer pricing; tax treatment of services; exchange of information; base erosion and profit-shifting issues for developing countries; extractive industries taxation issues for developing countries; and negotiation of tax treaties — practical manual, as well as an advisory group on capacity development;

3. *Acknowledges* the need for enhanced dialogue among national tax authorities on issues related to international cooperation in tax matters;

4. *Decides* to continue, including at its 2015 special meeting to consider international cooperation in tax matters, consultations on options with regard to the strengthening of institutional arrangements to promote international cooperation in tax matters, taking into account the need for an inclusive, participatory and broad-based dialogue on international cooperation in tax matters, including on the issue of the conversion of the Committee into an intergovernmental subsidiary body of the Council;

5. *Emphasizes* that it is important for the Committee to enhance its collaboration with other international organizations active in the area of international tax cooperation, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, and with relevant regional and subregional bodies;

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[4] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2014, Supplement No. 13* (E/2014/33).

[5] See E/2014/SR.20 and 21.

[6] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 25* (E/2013/45).

6. *Encourages* the President of the Economic and Social Council to issue invitations to representatives of national tax authorities to attend the annual special meeting of the Council to consider international cooperation in tax matters;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Council, at its special meeting to consider international cooperation in tax matters, a report, within existing resources and reflecting the views of Member States, on options for further strengthening the work and operational capacity of the Committee, with an emphasis on better integrating its work into the programme of work of the Council following its reform and effectively contributing to the financing for development follow-up process and to the post-2015 development agenda;

8. *Recognizes* the progress made by the Financing for Development Office of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in developing, within its mandate, a capacity development programme in international tax cooperation aimed at strengthening the capacity of the ministries of finance and the national tax authorities in developing countries to develop more effective and efficient tax systems, which support the desired levels of public and private investment, and to combat tax evasion, and requests the Office, in partnership with other stakeholders, to continue its work in this area and to further develop its activities within existing resources and mandates;

9. *Stresses* the need for appropriate funding for the subsidiary bodies of the Committee to enable those bodies to fulfil their mandates;

10. *Reiterates*, in this regard, its appeal to Member States, relevant organizations and other potential donors to consider contributing generously to the Trust Fund for International Cooperation in Tax Matters, established by the Secretary-General in order to supplement regular budgetary resources, and invites the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to that end.

25th plenary meeting
13 June 2014

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
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2014 session
Item 7 of the provisional agenda*

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 25 June 2014

[*on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2014/L.18)*]

2014/13. Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, and recalling other relevant resolutions of the Assembly and relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming also the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence for the provision of humanitarian assistance, and the need for all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance in situations of complex emergencies and natural disasters to promote and fully respect those principles,

Recalling its decision 2014/211 of 23 April 2014, in which it decided that the theme for the humanitarian affairs segment of its 2014 session would be "The future of humanitarian affairs: towards greater inclusiveness, coordination, interoperability and effectiveness" and that it would convene two panels, on the topics "Effective humanitarian assistance" and "Serving the needs of people in complex emergencies",

Expressing deep concern at the increasing challenges to Member States and to the United Nations humanitarian response capacity posed by the consequences of natural disasters, including those related to the continuing impact of climate change, by the ongoing impact of the financial and economic crisis and by the regional food crises and continuing food insecurity, and the potential of those challenges to increase the need for resources for disaster risk reduction, preparedness and humanitarian assistance, including in developing countries,

Expressing grave concern at the increase in the number of people affected by humanitarian emergencies, including those associated with natural hazards and complex emergencies, at the increased impact of natural disasters and at the frequently protracted displacement resulting from humanitarian emergencies, recognizing the need for burden sharing in this regard, and noting with appreciation

* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

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efforts at the national and international levels that promote national capacity-building to address complex challenges in this regard,

Condemning the increasing number of attacks and other acts of violence against humanitarian personnel, facilities, assets and supplies, including medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, transports and facilities, and expressing deep concern about the negative implications of such attacks for the provision of humanitarian assistance to affected populations,

Noting with grave concern that violence, including sexual and gender-based violence and violence against children, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations in many emergency situations,

Reiterating the need to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance in a comprehensive and consistent manner,

Emphasizing that building and strengthening resilience at the local, national, and regional levels is critical to reducing the impact of disasters, including by saving lives, reducing suffering, mitigating damage to property and providing a more predictable and effective delivery of assistance and relief, and in this regard, while recognizing that building resilience is a long-term development process, stressing the need for continued investment in preparedness, prevention, mitigation and response capacity,

Emphasizing also the importance of improving information-sharing among Member States and the United Nations system and, where appropriate, with relevant humanitarian and development organizations, about risks that can lead to humanitarian crises, and of investing in building capacity, in particular for developing countries, to analyse, manage and reduce such risks and vulnerabilities to hazards, as well as, where appropriate, to improve risk analysis and its use in planning,

Recognizing the clear relationship between emergency response, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, and reaffirming that, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, emergency assistance must be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development and that emergency measures should be accompanied by development measures as a step towards the sustainable development of affected States, and in this regard highlighting the importance of closer cooperation between national stakeholders, including the private sector, as appropriate, and humanitarian and development actors,

Noting the contribution, as appropriate, of relevant regional and subregional organizations in the provision of humanitarian assistance within their region, upon the request of the affected State,

Recognizing that volunteerism can make an important contribution to community and nationally led efforts at all stages of humanitarian action,

Noting the importance of identifying best practices and opportunities to enhance the effective interaction and coordination between the United Nations and humanitarian organizations, donors, affected Governments, civil society, the private sector and other relevant actors and to make the best use of their expertise, available capacities, comparative advantages and resources with the overall aim of providing effective humanitarian assistance,

Recognizing the need for the United Nations system and its partners to improve and strengthen the coordination and accountability of humanitarian assistance and leadership within the United Nations humanitarian response system in support of national efforts, and noting the efforts made by the United Nations and its partners, including through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 68/1 of 20 September 2013, in which the Assembly stated that the Council and the Assembly, especially its Second and Third Committees, need to consider and take steps towards the rationalization of their agendas, with a view to eliminating duplication and overlap and promoting complementarity in the consideration and negotiation of similar or related issues,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Requests* Member States, relevant organizations and other relevant actors to ensure that all aspects and stages of humanitarian response address the specific needs, challenges and coping capacities of women, girls, men and boys, on an equal basis, taking into consideration age and disability, including through the improved collection, analysis, reporting and use of data disaggregated by sex, age and disability, taking into account, inter alia, the information provided by States, and emphasizes the importance of the full participation of women in decision-making processes related to humanitarian response;

3. *Encourages* Member States, with the support of relevant organizations, as appropriate, to strengthen leadership and commitment to preventing and mitigating humanitarian crises, including through integrating risk management into national development plans, and in this regard encourages humanitarian and development organizations, in cooperation with Governments, to continue to strengthen efforts to address the underlying risks and vulnerabilities, including through considering risk management and resilience strategies;

4. *Stresses* that the United Nations system should continue to enhance existing humanitarian capacities, knowledge and institutions, including, as appropriate, through the transfer of technology and expertise to developing countries, encourages the international community, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and organizations to support national authorities in their capacity-building programmes, including through technical cooperation and long-term partnerships, as well as by strengthening their capacity to build resilience, mitigate disaster risks and prepare for and respond to disasters, and also encourages Member States to create and strengthen an enabling environment for the capacity-building of their national and local authorities, national societies of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in providing timely humanitarian assistance;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations and humanitarian organizations, together with development organizations, to continue to support national leadership in building in-country preparedness capacity, including under the Common Framework for Capacity Development for Emergency Preparedness of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, the United Nations Development Group and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

[1] A/69/80-E/2014/68.

6. *Encourages* Member States, as well as relevant regional and international organizations, in accordance with their specific mandates, to continue to support adaptation to the effects of climate change and to strengthen disaster risk reduction and early warning systems in order to minimize the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including those related to the continuing impact of climate change, especially for those countries that are particularly vulnerable;

7. *Urges* States to assess their progress in strengthening preparedness levels for humanitarian response, with a view to increasing efforts to develop, update and strengthen disaster preparedness and risk reduction measures at all levels, in accordance with the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters,[2] in particular priority 5 thereof, taking into account their own circumstances and capacities and in coordination with relevant actors, as appropriate, and encourages the international community and relevant United Nations entities, including the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, United Nations funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies, to give increased priority to and mainstream disaster risk reduction, including preparedness, in particular through supporting national and local efforts in that regard;

8. *Encourages* States, the United Nations system and all stakeholders to continue to engage in the consultations on the successor to the Hyogo Framework for Action, culminating at the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015;

9. *Welcomes* the growing number of initiatives undertaken at the regional and national levels to promote the implementation of the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, encourages Member States and, where applicable, regional organizations to take further steps to review and strengthen operational and legal frameworks for international disaster relief, taking into account, as appropriate, the Guidelines, and welcomes the valuable support that national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies are providing to their Governments in this area, in collaboration with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and other partners;

10. *Encourages* efforts to enhance cooperation and coordination of United Nations humanitarian entities, other relevant humanitarian organizations and donor countries with the affected State, with a view to planning and delivering emergency humanitarian assistance in ways that are supportive of early recovery as well as sustainable rehabilitation, reconstruction and development efforts;

11. *Also encourages* efforts to provide safe and enabling learning environments and quality education in humanitarian emergencies, in particular for the well-being of all girls and boys, to contribute to a smooth transition from relief to development;

12. *Requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue to lead the efforts to strengthen the coordination and accountability of humanitarian assistance, urges relevant United Nations organizations and other intergovernmental organizations, as well as other humanitarian and relevant development actors,

[2] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

including civil society, to continue to work with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to enhance the coordination, effectiveness and efficiency of humanitarian assistance, and encourages Member States to improve their cooperation with the Office;

13. *Also requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to continue to improve dialogue with Member States on the relevant processes, activities and deliberations of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

14. *Encourages* United Nations humanitarian organizations and other relevant organizations, while strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance in the field, to continue to work in close coordination with national Governments, taking into account the primary role of the affected State in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of such assistance within its territory;

15. *Requests* the United Nations system and other relevant actors to continue to improve and strengthen humanitarian coordination mechanisms, notably at the field level, including the existing cluster coordination mechanism, and by improving partnership and coordination with national and local authorities, including the use of national/local coordination mechanisms, where possible;

16. *Welcomes* the continued efforts to strengthen the humanitarian response capacity in order to provide a timely, predictable, coordinated and accountable response to humanitarian needs, and requests the Secretary-General to continue efforts in that regard, in consultation with Member States, including by strengthening support to and improving the identification, selection and training of United Nations resident/humanitarian coordinators;

17. *Requests* the United Nations to continue to identify solutions to strengthen its ability to recruit and deploy appropriately senior, skilled and experienced humanitarian staff quickly and flexibly, giving paramount consideration to the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, while paying due regard to gender equality and to recruiting on as wide a geographical basis as possible, and in this regard encourages the United Nations Development Group to strengthen the resident coordinator system, on which the humanitarian coordinator system is based, in order to ensure full implementation of the management and accountability system of the United Nations development and resident coordinator system;

18. *Also requests* the United Nations to continue to develop specialist technical expertise and capacity to fill gaps in critical humanitarian programming and to procure emergency relief material rapidly and cost-effectively, and locally when appropriate, in order to support Governments and United Nations country teams in the coordination and provision of international humanitarian assistance;

19. *Recognizes* the benefits of the effectiveness of the humanitarian response, including by engaging and coordinating with relevant humanitarian actors, and welcomes in this regard the ongoing efforts by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to build partnerships with regional organizations and the private sector, encourages Member States and the United Nations system to continue to strengthen partnerships at the global, regional, national and local levels in support of national efforts, which can cooperate effectively to provide humanitarian assistance to those in need and ensure that their collaborative efforts adhere to the principles of neutrality, humanity, impartiality and independence, and also encourages the United Nations system to continue to pursue efforts to strengthen

partnerships at the global level with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant humanitarian non-governmental organizations and other participants in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

20. *Notes* the increasing challenges facing both Member States, in particular developing countries, and the international humanitarian response system in responding effectively to all humanitarian emergencies, in particular the underfunded and forgotten emergencies, and in this regard stresses the need to enhance existing partnerships and build new ones, strengthen financing mechanisms, broaden the donor base and engage other partners to ensure adequate resources for the provision of humanitarian assistance;

21. *Expresses concern* at the challenges related to, inter alia, safe access to and use of food and shelter, water and sanitation, health care, fuel, firewood and alternative energy and telecommunications in humanitarian emergencies, and notes with appreciation initiatives at the national and international levels that promote effective cooperation in that regard;

22. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and humanitarian and development organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, to continue to assess and improve, together with other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, how innovation can be more systematically promoted through increasing investment in research and development leading to innovation, identified and integrated into humanitarian action in a sustainable manner, and promote the sharing of best practices and lessons learned on innovative tools, processes and evaluations, including those from recent large-scale natural disasters, that could improve the effectiveness and quality of humanitarian response, and in this regard encourages all relevant stakeholders to support the efforts of Member States, in particular developing countries, to strengthen their capacities, including through access to information and communication technologies;

23. *Requests* the United Nations humanitarian organizations, in consultation with Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen the evidence base for humanitarian assistance by further developing common mechanisms to improve the quality, transparency and reliability of and make further progress in respect of strategic planning and common humanitarian needs assessments, to assess their performance in assistance and to ensure the most effective use of humanitarian resources by those organizations;

24. *Encourages* Member States to improve data collection and analysis and to facilitate the exchange of information with humanitarian organizations of the United Nations, in order to support preparedness efforts and to improve the effectiveness of needs-based humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations system, as appropriate, and other relevant actors to continue to assist developing countries in their efforts to build local and national capacities for data collection and analysis;

25. *Recognizes* that accountability is an integral part of effective humanitarian assistance, and emphasizes the need to enhance the accountability of humanitarian actors at all stages of humanitarian assistance;

26. *Calls upon* the United Nations and its humanitarian partners to enhance accountability to Member States, including affected States, and all other stakeholders, and to further strengthen humanitarian response efforts, including by monitoring and evaluating the provision of their humanitarian assistance,

incorporating lessons learned into programming and consulting with the affected populations so that their needs are appropriately addressed;

27. *Urges* all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance to fully commit to and duly respect the guiding principles contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 46/182, including the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality and impartiality as well as the principle of independence, as recognized by the Assembly in its resolution 58/114 of 17 December 2003;

28. *Calls upon* all States and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflict and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel and delivery of supplies and equipment in order to allow humanitarian personnel to perform efficiently their task of assisting affected civilian populations, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

29. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflicts to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law;

30. *Calls upon* all States and parties to comply fully with the provisions of international humanitarian law, including all the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949,[3] in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, in order to protect and assist civilians in occupied territories, and in this regard urges the international community and the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen humanitarian assistance to civilians in those situations;

31. *Encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant United Nations humanitarian organizations, to ensure that the basic humanitarian needs of affected populations, including food, shelter, health, clean water, education and protection, are addressed as components of humanitarian response, including through providing timely and adequate resources with the aim of ensuring the immediate restoration of safe conditions of life, alleviating the immediate effects of humanitarian emergencies and contributing towards long-term recovery and reconstruction, while ensuring that their collaborative efforts fully adhere to humanitarian principles;

32. *Recognizes* the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement[4] as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, encourages Member States and humanitarian agencies to continue to work together, in collaboration with host communities, in endeavours to provide a more predictable response to the needs of internally displaced persons, and in this regard calls for continued and enhanced international support, upon request, for the capacity-building efforts of States;

33. *Urges* Member States to continue to take the steps necessary to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, including medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, premises, facilities, equipment, transports and supplies operating within their borders, and in other territories under their effective control, recognizes the need for appropriate

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[4] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

collaboration between humanitarian actors and relevant authorities of the affected State in matters related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel, requests the Secretary-General to expedite his efforts to enhance the safety and security of personnel involved in United Nations humanitarian operations, and urges Member States to ensure that perpetrators of crimes committed against humanitarian personnel on their territory or in other territories under their effective control do not operate with impunity and are brought to justice as provided for by national laws and in accordance with obligations under international law;

34. *Also urges* Member States to continue to prevent, investigate and prosecute acts of sexual and gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies, calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to strengthen support services for victims of such violence, and also calls for a more effective response in that regard;

35. *Encourages* the United Nations and other relevant humanitarian actors to include as part of their risk management strategy the building of good relations and trust with national and local governments and to promote acceptance by local communities, and all relevant actors, in order to enable humanitarian assistance to be provided in accordance with humanitarian principles;

36. *Emphasizes* the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, and, in situations in which military capacity and assets are used to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, reaffirms the need for their use to be undertaken with the consent of the affected State and in conformity with international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as humanitarian principles;

37. *Encourages* Member States, the private sector, civil society and other relevant entities to make new contributions and to consider increasing and diversifying their existing contributions to humanitarian funding mechanisms, including consolidated and flash appeals, the Central Emergency Response Fund and other funds such as the country-based pooled funds, based on and in proportion to assessed needs, as a means of ensuring flexible, predictable, timely, needs-based and, where possible, multi-year, non-earmarked and additional resources to meet global humanitarian challenges, encourages donors to adhere to the Principles and Good Practice of Humanitarian Donorship, [5] reiterates that contributions for humanitarian assistance should be provided in a way which is not to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development, recognizes the need for more diversified funding bases, and encourages the United Nations and humanitarian organizations to consider making further use of multi-year consolidated appeals, as appropriate;

38. *Recognizes* that building preparedness is a long-term investment that will contribute to the achievement of humanitarian and development objectives, including a reduction in the need for humanitarian response, and therefore further encourages Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant actors to provide effective, predictable, flexible and adequate funding for preparedness and disaster risk reduction activities, including from humanitarian and development budgets, and stresses that international preparedness efforts reinforce and support national and local response capacities and institutions;

[5] A/58/99-E/2003/94, annex II.

39. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General to hold the first World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2016, aimed at sharing knowledge and best practices in the humanitarian field to improve the coordination, capacity and effectiveness of humanitarian response, and requests the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to ensure an inclusive, consultative and transparent preparatory process;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reflect the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution in his next report to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations.

29th plenary meeting
25 June 2014

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
15 August 2014

2014 session
Item 6 of the provisional agenda*

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 14 July 2014

[*on a proposal considered in plenary meeting (E/2014/L.19)*]

2014/14. Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 67/226 of 21 December 2012 and 68/229 of 20 December 2013 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/5 of 12 July 2013, in which key system-wide policy orientations were established for development cooperation at both the Headquarters and the country levels,

Reaffirming the importance of the timely and full implementation of the system-wide policy orientations established in General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Recalling the critical role of the Council in providing coordination, monitoring and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that those policy orientations are implemented in a full and timely manner on a system-wide basis in accordance with the present resolution and General Assembly resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993, 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 61/16 of 20 November 2006, 65/285 of 29 June 2011, 67/226 and 68/1 of 20 September 2013,

Reaffirming that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the development needs of programme countries in a flexible manner, and that the operational activities are carried out for the benefit of programme countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development,

Noting the changes to its cycle,

Recognizing the importance and catalytic role of predictable official development assistance for international development, noting that global official

* E/2014/1/Rev.1, annex II.

14-56930 (E)

Please recycle

development assistance increased steadily from 1997 to 2010 and that official development assistance increased in 2013, and noting with concern that official development assistance declined in 2011 and 2012,

Introduction

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;[1]

2. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and all relevant entities, to establish a comprehensive and coherent monitoring and reporting framework for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review;

3. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes to make every effort to continue to improve monitoring and data collection methods with a view to contributing towards further enhancement of the analytical quality of the report of the Secretary-General on operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

4. *Requests* the United Nations development system to provide quality inputs and appropriate updates to the report of the Secretary-General with a view to continuing to improve high-quality analytical reporting on the operational activities for development, while stressing the need to minimize transaction costs associated with reporting;

5. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to further improve the analytical and evidence-based quality of the report on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, including by addressing challenges and presenting options for enhancing the implementation of system-wide mandates of the review;

6. *Also calls upon* the Secretary-General to ensure that the United Nations Development Group and the High-level Committee on Management fully align their efforts to monitor implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review and align their work in the area of operational activities for development with the review;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the United Nations funds and programmes that have not already done so to consolidate their annual reporting on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review within their reporting on the implementation of their strategic plans;

8. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes to continue to improve the quality of their annual reports to the Economic and Social Council;

9. *Reiterates its encouragement* to entities of the United Nations development system with operational activities for development that have not done so to fully align their strategic plans and their strategic planning and budgeting cycles with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, taking into account their respective mandates;

[1] A/69/63-E/2014/10.

Funding of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

10. *Reiterates* that core resources, because of their untied nature, continue to be the bedrock of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and in this regard recognizes the need for organizations to address, on a continuous basis, the imbalance between core and non-core resources and to report to the Council in 2015, as part of their regular reporting, on the measures taken to address this imbalance;

11. *Notes* that the majority of the increase in funding for the United Nations development system between 1997 and 2012 was in the form of non-core resources, resulting in an imbalance between core and non-core resources, and notes with concern that the percentage of core resources in the overall funding for operational activities has declined, representing only 28 per cent in 2012;

12. *Also notes* that non-core resources represent an important contribution to the overall resource base of the United Nations development system and complement core resources in supporting operational activities for development, thus contributing to an increase in total resources, while noting the need to make non-core resources more flexible and better aligned with strategic plans and national priorities and recognizing that non-core resources are not a substitute for core resources;

13. *Recognizes* that non-core resources pose challenges, in particular restricted earmarked funding such as single-donor project-specific funding, by potentially increasing transaction costs, fragmentation, competition and overlap among entities and providing disincentives for pursuing an Organization-wide focus, strategic positioning and coherence and may also potentially distort programme priorities regulated by intergovernmental bodies and processes;

14. *Expresses its regret* that the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 with respect to taking concrete measures to broaden the donor base was not fulfilled, and requests the United Nations funds and programmes and encourages specialized agencies that have not done so to report to their governing bodies at a 2014 session on concrete measures taken to broaden the donor base and increase the number of countries and other partners making contributions to the United Nations development system in order to reduce the reliance of the system on a limited number of donors;

15. *Also expresses its regret* that the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 with respect to the critical mass of core resources was not fulfilled, and reiterates the request to the United Nations funds and programmes to define common principles for the concept of critical mass of core resources, which may include the level of resources adequate to respond to the needs of the programme countries and to produce the results expected in strategic plans, including administrative, management and programme costs, in consultation with Member States, and to present specific proposals in 2014 with a view to a decision in 2014;

16. *Stresses* the need to avoid the use of core/regular resources to subsidize non-core/extrabudgetary financed activities, reaffirms that the guiding principle governing the financing of all non-programme costs should be based on full cost recovery, proportionally, from core and non-core funding sources, and in this regard notes the timelines agreed by the executive boards of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the

Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for an independent and external assessment to be performed in 2016 of the consistency and alignment of the new cost recovery methodology with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review;

17. *Recalls* the request contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 to the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes and the governing bodies of the specialized agencies, as appropriate, to organize structured dialogues with Member States during 2014 on how to finance the development results agreed in the new strategic planning cycle of the respective entities, with a view to making non-core resources more predictable and less restricted/earmarked, broadening the donor base and improving the adequacy and predictability of resource flows;

18. *Welcomes* the progress made by the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to ensure that available and projected core and non-core resources are consolidated within an integrated budgetary framework, based on the priorities of their respective strategic plans, and encourages all agencies that have not already done so to develop such integrated frameworks in their next budget cycle;

Contribution of the operational activities of the United Nations to national capacity development and development effectiveness

19. *Reaffirms* the request by the General Assembly to the United Nations development system to develop, for the consideration of Member States, a common approach for measuring progress in capacity development, including measures to ensure sustainability, as well as to develop specific frameworks aimed at enabling programme countries, upon their request, to design, monitor and evaluate results in the development of their capacity to achieve national development goals and strategies, and invites the Secretary-General to provide, in his 2015 annual report on the implementation of Assembly resolution 67/226 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, comprehensive and evidence-based updates on measures taken in this regard;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his regular report to the Council in 2015, in consultation with Member States, information on steps taken by entities of the United Nations development system to strengthen and use national capacities and to make proposals to address any obstacles;

21. *Requests* the funds and programmes of the United Nations development system, and invites specialized agencies, to consider the findings and observations related to national capacity gaps repeatedly highlighted by programme countries to be addressed through the work of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including through the strengthening and use of national capacities, and to report to their governing bodies in 2015 with recommendations for implementation in this regard;

Poverty eradication

22. *Welcomes* the integration of poverty eradication, as the overarching priority, into the strategic plans of some United Nations system organizations, in accordance with their mandates;

23. *Reaffirms* the call by the General Assembly, contained in its resolution 67/226, for the organizations of the United Nations development system to assign the highest priority to the eradication of poverty, and in this regard requests the

United Nations funds and programmes to include in their regular reporting to the Council information on steps taken, in accordance with their mandates, on the scaling up of efforts to address the root causes of extreme poverty and hunger, sharing of good practices, lessons learned, strategies, programmes and policies, inter alia, capacity-building, employment generation, education, vocational training, rural development and the mobilization of resources, which aim at achieving poverty eradication and promoting the active participation of those living in poverty in the design and implementation of such programmes and policies;

South-South cooperation

24. *Recalls* the requests contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 on strengthening South-South cooperation, in this regard notes the progress made by some entities of the United Nations development system in mainstreaming South-South and triangular cooperation into their key policies, strategic frameworks, operational activities and budgets, and welcomes decision 18/1 of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation,[2] which contains, inter alia, measures to strengthen South-South and triangular cooperation, including through improved allocation of resources across the United Nations development system, including the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close consultation with the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, to present, as part of his annual report on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2015, recommendations based on a thorough analysis of obstacles to and incentives for the scaling up of United Nations support for South-South cooperation, including lessons learned from the implementation of successful South-South cooperation projects and programmes;

26. *Decides* that the President of the Council will include in its agenda for the operational activities segment of 2015 an interactive segment with relevant United Nations stakeholders and external stakeholders on lessons learned from the implementation of South-South cooperation projects and programmes and the potential benefits for the United Nations development system and participating countries;

27. *Reaffirms* the call in paragraph 77 of General Assembly resolution 67/226 for all countries in a position to do so, as well as other stakeholders, to increase their support for South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, especially by providing technical assistance and mobilizing financial resources on a sustainable basis, and in this regard requests the United Nations funds and programmes to clarify for Member States, as part of their regular briefings, the role of all stakeholders and the action taken so far by such entities in this regard;

28. *Recalls* the request contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 to the heads of specialized agencies, the United Nations funds and programmes and regional commissions to pay special attention to the implementation of South-South cooperation projects, including those managed or supported by the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, and requests the Secretary-General, as part of his regular reporting to the Council, to provide an update on progress in this regard;

[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 39* (A/69/39), chap. I.

Transition from relief to development

29. *Reaffirms* the request contained in General Assembly resolution 67/226 to the United Nations development system to accelerate progress in deepening coordination between Secretariat entities and members of the United Nations development system, inter alia, through the simplification and harmonization of programming instruments and processes and business practices, with a view to providing effective, efficient and responsive support to national efforts in countries in transition from relief to development, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his regular reporting to the Council comprehensive and evidence-based updates on progress in this regard;

Gender equality and women's empowerment

30. *Welcomes* efforts made by entities of the United Nations development system to implement the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, and requests those entities of the United Nations development system that have not already done so to accelerate efforts to implement the Action Plan with a view to ensuring that all relevant entities meet its performance standards by 2017;

Resident coordinator system

31. *Notes with appreciation* progress achieved in implementing the cost-sharing agreement for the resident coordinator system, notes the funding gap expected for the resident coordinator system for 2014 and 2015, in this regard requests entities of the United Nations development system that have not already done so to take appropriate actions to implement the agreement, subject to the approval of their governing bodies and without impacting programme delivery, including by paying their contribution in full, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his regular reporting to the Council updates on agency-specific progress in this regard;

"Delivering as one"

32. *Welcomes* the finalization of the standard operating procedures for countries adopting "Delivering as one" on a voluntary basis, and in this regard requests the United Nations funds and programmes, and strongly encourages the specialized agencies, to take appropriate actions to fully and coherently implement the standard operating procedures, including the United Nations Development Group Plan of Action for Headquarters, and to report annually on progress in this regard at the annual meeting of their respective governing bodies;

33. *Requests* the United Nations development system to provide an update to Member States on the process for review and approval of common country programme documents at the operational activities segment of the substantive session of 2015 of the Council;

34. *Recognizes* that pooled funding mechanisms are important tools in advancing "Delivering as one" in countries wishing to adopt this approach, and encourages donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to prioritize the use of such mechanisms in order to maximize the impact of the "Delivering as one" reforms in those countries;

Simplification and harmonization of business practices

35. *Requests* the United Nations funds and programmes to present the comprehensive joint action plans for the simplification and harmonization of business practices to their respective executive boards, and invites the United Nations funds and programmes to undertake a thorough review of progress in the simplification and harmonization of business practices;

36. *Calls upon* the United Nations funds and programmes to present an update, in 2014, on progress towards a proposal on the common definition of operating costs and a common and standardized system of cost control, paying due attention to their different business models, with a view to taking a decision on this issue in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2016;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its substantive session of 2015, as part of his regular reporting, on progress in achieving full system-wide interoperability of enterprise resource planning systems in 2016 in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review;

38. *Notes with concern* that plans containing concrete proposals for pilots for common United Nations service centres in consenting programme countries that represent the diversity of United Nations presence in all regions were not presented to the substantive session of 2014 of the Council, as requested in its resolution 2013/5, and in this regard reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to ensure adequate and evidence-based planning and design of common United Nations service centres by including such concrete proposals in plans for review by the Council in 2015;

39. *Notes* that some entities of the United Nations development system are establishing agency-specific service centres, and in this regard calls upon all relevant members of the system to participate in the establishment of the common service centres, with the intent that such centres provide long-term and system-wide cost savings and ensure higher quality, more effective and cost-efficient support services in all programme countries;

Results-based management

40. *Notes with concern* that there was no comprehensive reporting to the Council in 2013, with a view to implementation in 2014, on progress made towards a more robust, coherent and harmonized approach to operational activities for development, focused on results, which would streamline and improve the planning, monitoring, measurement and reporting on system-wide results, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to update the Council at the operational activities segment of its substantive session of 2015, as part of his regular reporting;

Evaluation of operational activities for development

41. *Welcomes* the new policy for independent system-wide evaluation of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,[3] and notes the decision by the General Assembly contained in its resolution 68/229 to launch two pilot evaluations in the current quadrennial comprehensive policy review cycle;

[3] See A/68/658-E/2014/7.

42. *Calls upon* donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to contribute resources to the implementation of the two pilot independent system-wide evaluations, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Council, in 2015, as part of his regular reporting, on progress in this regard;

43. *Calls upon* the members of the United Nations development system to further intensify efforts to assist programme countries in strengthening their national evaluation capacities for the monitoring and evaluation of operational activities for development;

Follow-up

44. *Recognizes* its role in providing guidance to the United Nations development system for the implementation of operational activities for development on a system-wide basis, welcomes the dialogues held at the operational activities segment of its substantive session of 2014 regarding the role of the United Nations development system in the changing development landscape and the need to align the United Nations system to address emerging challenges, in this regard decides to convene a transparent and inclusive dialogue involving Member States and all relevant stakeholders on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system, taking into account the post-2015 development agenda, including the interlinkages between the alignment of functions, funding practices, governance structures, capacity and impact of the United Nations development system, partnership approaches and organizational arrangements, decides that the Bureau of the Council will provide updates on progress in this regard during the operational activities segment in 2015 and 2016, and requests the Secretary-General to reflect these discussions in his report on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review to the General Assembly for consideration and action by Member States during the 2016 review.

42nd plenary meeting
14 July 2014